

110TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. 1026

To designate the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Augusta, Georgia, as the “Charlie Norwood Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center”.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 29, 2007

Mr. CHAMBLISS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans’ Affairs

A BILL

To designate the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Augusta, Georgia, as the “Charlie Norwood Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center”.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds the following:

5 (1) Charlie Norwood volunteered for service in
6 the United States Army Dental Corps in a time of
7 war, providing dental and medical services in the Re-
8 public of Vietnam in 1968, earning the Combat
9 Medical Badge and two awards of the Bronze Star.

1 (2) Captain Norwood, under combat conditions,
2 helped develop the Dental Corps operating proce-
3 dures, that are now standard, of delivering dentists
4 to forward-fire bases, and providing dental treat-
5 ment for military service dogs.

6 (3) Captain Norwood provided dental, emer-
7 gency medical, and surgical care for United States
8 personnel, Vietnamese civilians, and prisoners-of-
9 war.

10 (4) Dr. Norwood provided military dental care
11 at Fort Gordon, Georgia, following his service in
12 Vietnam, then provided private-practice dental care
13 for the next 25 years for patients in the greater Au-
14 gusta, Georgia, area, including care for military per-
15 sonnel, retirees, and dependents under Department
16 of Defense programs and for low-income patients
17 under Georgia Medicaid.

18 (5) Congressman Norwood, upon being sworn
19 into the United States House of Representatives in
20 1995, pursued the advancement of health and dental
21 care for active duty and retired military personnel
22 and dependents, and for veterans, through his public
23 advocacy for strengthened Federal support for mili-
24 tary and veterans' health care programs and facili-
25 ties.

1 (6) Congressman Norwood co-authored and
2 helped pass into law the Keep our Promises to
3 America's Military Retirees Act, which restored life-
4 time healthcare benefits to veterans who are military
5 retirees through the creation of the Department of
6 Defense TRICARE for Life Program.

7 (7) Congressman Norwood supported and
8 helped pass into law the Retired Pay Restoration
9 Act providing relief from the concurrent receipt rule
10 penalizing disabled veterans who were also military
11 retirees.

12 (8) Throughout his congressional service from
13 1995 to 2007, Congressman Norwood repeatedly de-
14 feated attempts to reduce Federal support for the
15 Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in
16 Augusta, Georgia, and succeeded in maintaining and
17 increasing Federal funding for the center.

18 (9) Congressman Norwood maintained a life
19 membership in the American Legion, the Veterans of
20 Foreign Wars, and the Military Order of the World
21 Wars.

22 (10) Congressman Norwood's role in protecting
23 and improving military and veteran's health care
24 was recognized by the Association of the United
25 States Army through the presentation of the Cocklin

1 Award in 1998, and through his induction into the
2 Association's Audie Murphy Society in 1999.

3 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF CHARLIE NORWOOD DEPART-**
4 **MENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CEN-**
5 **TER.**

6 (a) DESIGNATION.—The Department of Veterans Af-
7 fairs Medical Center located at 1 Freedom Way in Au-
8 gusta, Georgia, shall after the date of the enactment of
9 this Act be known and designated as the “Charlie Nor-
10 wood Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center”.

11 (b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law, regula-
12 tion, map, document, record, or other paper of the United
13 States to the medical center referred to in subsection (a)
14 shall be considered to be a reference to the Charlie Nor-
15 wood Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

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