

110<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
1<sup>ST</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 1808

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

OCTOBER 24, 2007

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## AN ACT

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,*

1 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

2 Congress finds the following:

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

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

13 (3) Captain Norwood provided dental, emer-  
14 gency medical, and surgical care for United States  
15 personnel, Vietnamese civilians, and prisoners-of-  
16 war.

17 (4) Dr. Norwood provided military dental care  
18 at Fort Gordon, Georgia, following his service in  
19 Vietnam, then provided private-practice dental care  
20 for the next 25 years for patients in the greater Au-  
21 gusta, Georgia, area, including care for military per-  
22 sonnel, retirees, and dependents under Department  
23 of Defense programs and for low-income patients  
24 under Georgia Medicaid.

25 (5) Congressman Norwood, upon being sworn  
26 into the United States House of Representatives in

1 1995, pursued the advancement of health and dental  
2 care for active duty and retired military personnel  
3 and dependents, and for veterans, through his public  
4 advocacy for strengthened Federal support for mili-  
5 tary and veterans' health care programs and facili-  
6 ties.

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

13 (7) Congressman Norwood supported and  
14 helped pass into law the Retired Pay Restoration  
15 Act providing relief from the concurrent receipt rule  
16 penalizing disabled veterans who were also military  
17 retirees.

18 (8) Throughout his congressional service from  
19 1995 to 2007, Congressman Norwood repeatedly de-  
20 feated attempts to reduce Federal support for the  
21 Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in  
22 Augusta, Georgia, and succeeded in maintaining and  
23 increasing Federal funding for the center.

24 (9) Congressman Norwood maintained a life  
25 membership in the American Legion, the Veterans of

1 Foreign Wars, and the Military Order of the World  
2 Wars.

3 (10) Congressman Norwood’s role in protecting  
4 and improving military and veteran’s health care  
5 was recognized by the Association of the United  
6 States Army through the presentation of the Cocklin  
7 Award in 1998, and through his induction into the  
8 Association’s Audie Murphy Society in 1999.

9 **SEC. 2. DESIGNATION OF CHARLIE NORWOOD DEPART-**  
10 **MENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MEDICAL CEN-**  
11 **TER.**

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

17 (b) REFERENCES.—Any reference in any law, regula-  
18 tion, map, document, record, or other paper of the United  
19 States to the medical center referred to in subsection (a)

1 shall be considered to be a reference to the Charlie Nor-  
2 wood Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

Passed the House of Representatives October 23,  
2007.

Attest:                      LORRAINE C. MILLER,  
*Clerk.*