who had fought to restore democracy and freedom was executed in accordance with orders of Castro himself several days before the Bay of Pigs invasion, April 17, 1961.

*Maj. Victor Mora saved Fidel, Raúl, Che Guevara and other survivors when they landed from a Sherman tank on Dec. 2, 1956. A Cuba Maestra native, Mora led them around the Cuban Army to a safe haven high up in the mountains.

After the victory, it didn’t take Mora long to realize that he and others had been sold out by Castro. Caught conspiring, Mora was sentenced to 10 years. Once released, he escaped to the United States, where he lived modestly in Little Havana.

*Pedro Luis Díaz Lanz flew weapons from Venezuela and Costa Rica to Castro’s “eagle’s nest” in the mountains. After victory, he was named Castro’s personal pilot. But he was tried as a “counterrevolutionary,” and Tipped that Castro had ordered his arrest, he barely escaped to Miami in a sailboat in July 17, 1961, was sentenced to 30 years. Mr. BARR of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on August 10, 2001 a building will be dedicated honoring the late Senator Paul Coverdell at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC), near Brunswick, Georgia. I would like to recognize Mr. Coverdell’s commitment to our nation’s education and America’s criminal justice system.

Senator Coverdell was always an ardent supporter of the law enforcement community, not just in Georgia but nationwide. It is a honor to the Coverdell family and Georgia to have a part of the nation’s premier interagency law enforcement training center named for Senator Coverdell.

As recent as June, 2000 Senator Coverdell was opposing attempts of other politicians to move part of the FLETC’s training program elsewhere. Senator Coverdell and Representative Jack Kingston, in whose district the facility is located, were successful in maintaining FLETC’s premier training role. It is evident Senator Coverdell had a personal interest in this absolutely essential federal facility.

Unfortunately I will not be able to attend the dedication ceremony. I would like to pass on behalf of myself and Mr. Brown of South Carolina, Mr. Evans of Georgia, Mr. Simmons of Connecticut, Mr. Gibson of Nevada, Mr. Wamp of Tennessee, Mr. Kirk of Illinois, Mr. Buyer of Indiana, and Mr. Bilirakis of Florida.

America’s servicemen and women, their families, and our veterans who have served in uniform deserve the best health care we can offer them as a Nation. My bill addresses the urgent need for the Departments of Defense and Veterans Affairs to improve their programs of health resource sharing as originally authorized by Public Law 97-174, the “Veterans’ Administration and Department of Defense Health Resources Sharing and Emergency Operations Act of 1982.” This authority was originally intended to provide opportunities to make it easier for the two Departments—whose combined health care budgets this year total over $35 billion—to increase the variety and amount of their health resource sharing for the benefit of their veteran and military beneficiaries, while helping hold down costs in Federal health care for the benefit of taxpayers.

Currently, the Secretaries of each Department have at their discretion the option not to share. With this bill, we take a new approach: it would make sharing the order of the day. Sharing must be an important priority of both Departments, and we should create strong incentives for the Secretaries to work together to achieve common ends. The bill’s proposed findings are indicative of our disappointment with the current state of VA–DoD sharing. We believe that neither department has taken full advantage of sharing opportunities and that the intended results of the 1982 sharing authority have not been achieved. We know VA–DoD sharing could be greatly increased, and with this bill we want to get sharing moving again.

Mr. Speaker, this bill seeks to establish a Department of Defense—Department of Veterans Affairs Health Resources Access Improvement Act of 2001.

Therefore, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the impressive accomplishments of the Newark Fire Department that has brought honor, pride, and security to their community.

Mr. NEY of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I commend the following article to my colleagues:

Whereas, the exemplary work of the Newark Fire Department has earned them the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center Institute for outstanding work in providing protection to their community; and, whereas, the partnership between the Fire Department and the city is a strong and essential component for serving the community effectively; and whereas, the relationship that has been cultivated between the Newark Fire Department and the city that it serves has proven to be an effective element for fire prevention.

A PROCLAMATION RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING WORK OF THE NEWARK FIRE DEPARTMENT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 27, 2001

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE—DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS HEALTH RESOURCES ACCESS IMPROVEMENT ACT OF 2001

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 27, 2001

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, as Chairman of the Veterans’ Affairs Committee, I am introducing the “Department of Defense—Department of Veterans Affairs Health Resources Access Improvement Act of 2001” on behalf of myself and Mr. Brown of South Carolina, Mr. Evans of Georgia, Mr. Simmons of Connecticut, Mr. Gibson of Nevada, Mr. Wamp of Tennessee, Mr. Kirk of Illinois, Mr. Buyer of Indiana, and Mr. Bilirakis of Florida.

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Mr. Speaker, this bill seeks to establish a health care facilities sharing demonstration project in keeping with the intent of the original legislation for VA–DoD sharing. Under the bill, five qualifying sites across the country would be selected for participation in a demonstration project. The purpose of the demonstration...