

Date

Representative _____

CD _____

Re: Letter of Support for H.R. 1437, Buffalo Soldier Congressional Gold Medal

Dear Representative _____

This letter offers my unqualified support for the awarding of the Congressional Gold Medal to the Buffalo Soldiers. Also, please see the attached proposal for awarding the medal to the Buffalo Soldiers.

As a member of the Greater Southern Arizona Area Chapter (GSAAC) of the 9th and 10th (Horse) Cavalry Association it has been an honor over the years to present this great history of "An American Legacy," to the Tucson community. Through the years, we hosted many events and were honored to have the Giffords family join us at our annual dinners. At one time, the Giffords family and the GSAAC partner to award academic scholarships to deserving high school seniors accepted to a college or university. The Honorable Gabrielle Giffords attended many of our dinners.

Bestowing Congress' highest expression of national achievement to the Buffalo Soldiers honors their sacrifices made during major conflicts including Western expansion, Spanish-American War, Philippines War, World War I, World War II and the Korean War as well as their role in protecting our national parks.

July of 2023 marked the 75th Anniversary of President Truman's Executive Order (EO) 8891 to desegregate the U.S. Armed Forces. It took 82 years, from the Army Reorganization Act signed into law on July 28, 1866 to signing of EO 8891 on July 26, 1948 for the efforts for equality and acceptance to take hold. Recently, major corrective actions have been taken to "*right the wrongs*" done to some Buffalo Soldiers suffered during "The Jim Crow Era."

Isn't fitting and time that the 119th Congress recognize the Buffalo Soldiers with the Congressional Gold Medal as we approach the 160th anniversary of the Army Reorganization Act of 1866? It would be a great honor for those Buffalo Soldiers still alive and their descendants to receive this award.

Sincerely,

Your Name,
CD #