Representative \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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Re: Letter of Support for H.R. 1222, 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.

H.R. 1222, the Buffalo Soldiers Congressional Gold Medal Action of 2023, would award a Congressional Gold Medal to the Buffalo Soldier regiments (four all-black cavalry and infantry regiments authorized by Congress in 1866 and 1869 to serve in the U.S. Armed Forces), in recognition of their vital service to the United States. The medal would be displayed at the National Museum of African American History and Culture of the Smithsonian Institution in Washington D.C.

The Congressional Gold Medal is the highest expression of national appreciation for

distinguished achievements and contributions by individuals or institutions awarded by

the United States Congress. Since it was first awarded to George Washington in

1776, the Congressional Gold Medal has been awarded to soldiers, inventors,

actors, musicians, writers, public servants, and athletes.

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.

Last year was the 75th Anniversary of President Truman's Executive Order 8891 to desegregate the U.S. Armed Forces.  It took 82 years, from July 28, 1866 to July 26, 1948 for the efforts for equality and acceptance to take hold. Also there have been major corrective actions taken to right the wrongs done to some Buffalo Soldiers suffered during “Jim Crow.” It would be a great highlight to the significance, to the Desegregation Executive Order and other recent corrective actions, that the Congressional Gold Medal be awarded to the *“Buffalo Soldiers.”*

Sincerely,

Your Name,

CD #