

## House Resolution 1393

By: Representatives Jones of the 91<sup>st</sup>, Jackson of the 64<sup>th</sup>, Singleton of the 71<sup>st</sup>, Bonner of the 72<sup>nd</sup>, Williams of the 168<sup>th</sup>, and others

## A RESOLUTION

1 Recognizing the Greater Atlanta Chapter, 9th and 10th (Horse) Cavalry Association for their  
2 efforts to preserve and promote the history of Buffalo Soldiers; and for other purposes.

3 WHEREAS, the Buffalo Soldiers were an all-black army unit established by Congress in  
4 1866 to help rebuild the country after the Civil War. Principally, the name "Buffalo  
5 Soldiers" referred to the 9th and 10th Cavalry units. The Buffalo Soldiers were the main  
6 peace-keeping force in the burgeoning American West, provided protection of the wagon  
7 trains traveling from the East to the West, served as railroad crews, and served as what are  
8 now called park rangers. The Buffalo Soldiers also participated in the numerous military  
9 campaigns against the Native Americans during the westward expansion of the United States;  
10 and

11 WHEREAS, working under insurmountable odds, poor equipment, low and sometimes no  
12 pay, as well as racial discrimination, the Buffalo Soldiers units distinguished themselves on  
13 the fields of battle during the Indian Campaign and the Spanish-American War; the name  
14 "Buffalo Soldiers" was originally applied to the all-black units that served from 1866-1918,  
15 during which 27 soldiers received Medals of Honor, hallmarking the military prowess of  
16 these unsung heroes and their dedication to serving the country; and

17 WHEREAS, Henry O. Flipper, born a slave in Thomasville, Georgia, in 1856, became the  
18 first African American to graduate from West Point in 1877 and to command regular troops  
19 in the United States Army. Lieutenant Flipper was assigned to command the all-black 10th  
20 Cavalry unit and served during the Apache Wars and the Victorio Campaign. He was also  
21 responsible for designing a drainage system at Ft. Sill, virtually eradicating the malaria  
22 problem plaguing the soldiers billeted there; and

23 WHEREAS, during the summer of 1898, while awaiting deployment for the  
24 Spanish-American War, the Buffalo Soldiers camped at Chickamauga Park and deployed to  
25 Cuba where they, again, distinguished themselves in battle by helping to rescue Teddy

26 Roosevelt and the Rough Riders during their charge up San Juan Hill. The Buffalo Soldiers  
27 turned the tide in the decisive battle at Kettle Hill that secured the victory for America; and

28 WHEREAS, the Greater Atlanta Chapter, 9th and 10th (Horse) Cavalry Association is  
29 dedicated to the mission of preserving and sharing the history of the Buffalo Soldiers. The  
30 chapter president, Derrick Davis, a resident of Conyers, Georgia, is one of the founding and  
31 charter members of the group. Formed in 1994, the chapter has traveled around the South  
32 and Southeast performing riding demonstrations, participating in parades, and giving  
33 historical presentations to churches, civic groups, and schools.

34 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
35 the members of this body recognize and commend the Greater Atlanta Chapter, 9th and 10th  
36 (Horse) Cavalry Association for their effective, unselfish, and dedicated public service to the  
37 State of Georgia and this nation through preserving and promoting the history of Buffalo  
38 Soldiers.

39 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is authorized  
40 and directed to make an appropriate copy of this resolution available for distribution to the  
41 Greater Atlanta Chapter, 9th and 10th (Horse) Cavalry Association.