

I voted Yes on H.R. 1022, the Buffalo Soldiers in the National Parks Study Act.

H.R. 1022 requires a study of possibilities to commemorate the role of the Buffalo Soldiers in the early years of the National Park Service. The study would include an evaluation of establishing a "national historic trail" commemorating the route traveled by the Buffalo Soldiers. In the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the Buffalo Soldiers rode from San Francisco to the Sierra Nevada Mountains and served as the protectors of several of the country's first national parks. These Buffalo Soldiers built trails, preserved giant sequoias, and protected the wildlife of Sequoia and Yosemite National Parks during their years. Buffalo Soldiers were African-American members of the U.S. Army cavalry.

I support this effort to allow the Secretary of the Interior to explore options for commemorating this important and interesting aspect of our national history. The bill was approved by a vote of 338 – 70.