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COLORADO
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
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**COLORADO HOUSE AND SENATE PASS RESOLUTION
COMMEMORATING THE BUFFALO SOLDIERS AND DESIGNATING
THE “BUFFALO SOLDIERS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY”**

State Senators Kent Lambert and Michael Merrifield, and State Representatives Terri Carver and Pete Lee sponsored a Joint Resolution to commemorate the Buffalo Soldier’s contribution to the settling of Colorado and to designate a portion of U.S. Highway 24 as the “Buffalo Soldiers Memorial Highway”. The resolution passed both chambers unanimously this week.

This Joint Resolution recognizes the contributions of the four African-American army units, the 9th and 10th Cavalry and the 24th and 25th Infantry Regiments. These soldiers supported the settling of Colorado through building roads, assisted civil authorities in peace-keeping efforts and participated in many important military conflicts. From 1867 to 1907, Buffalo Soldiers were awarded 23 Medals of Honor and 40 Certificates of Merit for their valor, endurance and courage.

The resolution designates the section of U.S. Highway 24 from Mile Marker 308 to Mile Marker 298, near Garden of the Gods, through the cities of Colorado Springs and Manitou Springs, Colorado to be renamed the “Buffalo Soldiers Memorial Highway”.

This effort has been led by the Buffalo Soldiers Community Memorial members comprised of Willie Breazell, Robert “Bob” Null, Dawn Elliott, Dennis Moore, EJ Mason, Edgar “Ed” Jones, Henry Allen, Jim Owens, John F. Register, June Waller, Mark Knight, Mel Elliott, George Payton, and Rod Mench. The committee put together an informative PowerPoint presentation that was played during the presentation of the joint resolution.

The highlight of the presentation on the floor of the House of Representatives included

the House sponsors and co-sponsors from the El Paso County delegation reading the names, rank, unit and conflict for the 23 Buffalo Soldiers who were awarded the Medal of Honor for their valor and courage.

The 23 Medal of Honor recipients were: Sergeant Major Edward L Baker, Jr. (1898), Private Denis Bell (1898), Sergeant Thomas Boyne (1879), Sergeant Benjamin Brown (1889), Private John Denny (1879), Private Pompey Factor (1889), Corporal Clinton Greaves (1877), Private Henry Johnson (1879), Sergeant George Jordan (1879), Private Fitz Lee (1898), Corporal Isaiah Mays (1889), Sergeant William McBryar (1890), Private Adam Payne (1874), Trumpeter Isaac Payne (1875), Sergeant Thomas Shaw (1881), Sergeant Emanuel Stance (1870), Corporal William H. Thompkins (1898), Sergeant Augustus Walley (1881), Private George H Wanton (1898), Sergeant John Ward (1875), Sergeant Moses Williams (1881), Corporal William O. Wilson (1890), and Sergeant Brent Woods (1881).

[Click here](#) to read the Resolution.

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