

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1015

To provide for the honorary promotion of Charles Young to the grade of
brigadier general in the United States Army.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 10, 2011

Ms. LEE of California (for herself, Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia, and Ms. SPEIER)
introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on
Armed Services

A BILL

To provide for the honorary promotion of Charles Young
to the grade of brigadier general in the United States Army.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. FINDINGS.**

4 Congress finds that—

5 (1) Charles Young graduated from the United
6 States Military Academy at West Point in 1889 and
7 received a commission as a second lieutenant, be-
8 coming the third African-American cadet to do so;

9 (2) in recognition of his actions in leading a
10 squadron of the 10th Cavalry during Pershing's ex-

1 pedition into Mexico, Charles Young was promoted
2 to Lieutenant Colonel in 1917, the first African-
3 American to reach this rank;

4 (3) at the beginning of the First World War,
5 Charles Young was the highest ranking African-
6 American serving in the United States Army;

7 (4) shortly after the United States entrance
8 into the First World War, Charles Young was medi-
9 cally furloughed as unfit for duty and forced to re-
10 tire under protest at the rank of colonel;

11 (5) after riding 500 miles on horseback to dem-
12 onstrate his fitness in June 1918, Charles Young
13 was reinstated and assigned as military attaché to
14 Liberia;

15 (6) among his billets, Charles Young served as
16 Acting Superintendent of Sequoia National Park in
17 California and as commander of Fort Huachuca, Ar-
18 izona; and

19 (7) despite his outstanding service record and
20 dedication to his country, Charles Young was denied
21 the opportunity to receive a promotion through com-
22 bat command during the First World War solely be-
23 cause of his race.

1 **SEC. 2. HONORARY PROMOTION OF CHARLES YOUNG.**

2 The President may issue an honorary commission of
3 brigadier general to Colonel Charles Young, United States
4 Army.

5 **SEC. 3. PROHIBITION OF BENEFITS.**

6 No person is entitled to any bonus, gratuity, pay, or
7 allowance because of the provisions of section 2.

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