

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2001**

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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 139
Committee Substitute Favorable 2/20/01
Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate Committee Substitute
Joint Resolution Adopted 2/26/01**

Sponsors:

Referred to:

February 15, 2001

1 A JOINT RESOLUTION HONORING THE MEMORY OF THE BUFFALO
2 SOLDIERS OF THE FRONTIER.

3 Whereas, more than 180,000 African-Americans served in the Union Army
4 during the Civil War; and

5 Whereas, in 1866, Congress enacted legislation that established two cavalry
6 and four infantry regiments whose enlisted members were to be composed of
7 African-Americans; and

8 Whereas, the two cavalries and four regiments were later consolidated into
9 the 9th and 10th Cavalries; and

10 Whereas, the 9th and 10th Cavalries served in the Native American campaigns
11 in the West, fought in the Spanish American War, saw tours of duty in the Philippine
12 Islands, enforced neutrality laws along the United States' border with Mexico, protected
13 mail and travel routes, erected hundreds of miles of telegraph lines, explored and
14 mapped terrain in the Southwest, built and repaired frontier outposts and roads,
15 protected the crews who built the railroads, and enforced law and order; and

16 Whereas, these African-American soldiers were nicknamed "Buffalo
17 Soldiers" by the Comanche because the soldiers' fierce fighting spirit and dogged trail
18 skills reminded the Comanche of the rugged and revered buffalo; and

19 Whereas, North Carolinians, Sgt. William McBryar of Elizabethtown, Frank
20 Pullen of Enfield, and Wade H. Hammond of Durham, served as Buffalo Soldiers; and

21 Whereas, Buffalo Soldiers earned 25 Medals of Honor, also referred to as the
22 Congressional Medal of Honor, the highest distinction a soldier can earn for valor on
23 the battlefield; and

24 Whereas, during peacetime, from 1920 through 1941, Buffalo Soldiers
25 formed efficient horse and marksmanship units; and

26 Whereas, as the United States entered World War II, new wartime technology
27 and the gradual desegregation of the military eventually brought an end to the 9th and
28 10th Cavalries; and

1 Whereas, the United States owes a great debt of gratitude to the bravery and
2 sacrifice of the Buffalo Soldiers; Now, therefore,

3 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives, the Senate concurring:

4 **SECTION 1.** The General Assembly honors the memory of William
5 McBryar, Frank Pullen, and Wade H. Hammond and wishes to pay tribute to the
6 Buffalo Soldiers of the 9th and 10th Cavalries who gave their lives while rendering
7 service to our country.

8 **SECTION 2.** The General Assembly encourages the citizens of this State to
9 remember these heroic soldiers for their role in helping to shape our country.

10 **SECTION 3.** This resolution is effective upon ratification.