

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.

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## 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

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## 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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