

1 State of Arkansas  
2 94th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2023

HR 1014

4  
5 By: Representative Unger

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7 **HOUSE RESOLUTION**

8 TO RECOGNIZE FEBRUARY AS BLACK VETERANS MONTH.

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11 **Subtitle**

12 TO RECOGNIZE FEBRUARY AS BLACK VETERANS  
13 MONTH.

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16 WHEREAS, dating back to the American Revolution, African Americans have  
17 played key roles in the history and success of the United States military;  
18 and

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20 WHEREAS, there are more than two million (2,000,000) African American  
21 veterans in the United States; and

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23 WHEREAS, America's story is written in the sweat and blood of military  
24 heroism, valor, and service; and

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26 WHEREAS, African Americans have stood along their diverse counterparts  
27 training and fighting for the principles of justice, freedom, and democracy;  
28 and

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30 WHEREAS, the 1st Rhode Island Regiment, the first Continental Army unit  
31 largely comprised of Black New Englanders showcased African Americans' skill  
32 as soldiers and commitment to their brethren on the battlefield; and

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34 WHEREAS, just over one hundred (100) years ago during World War I, the  
35 Harlem Hellfighters battled hostile forces abroad and racism at home,  
36 demonstrating a remarkable commitment to this country; and



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WHEREAS, Beginning in 1941, the nine hundred twenty-six (926) all-black Tuskegee Airmen carried out hundreds of escort missions during World War II, never losing a single plane to the enemy; and

WHEREAS, African American veterans have used the experience and discipline they acquired in the military to attain prominent positions in the civilian world including David Robinson, James Earl Jones, Arkansas native Sheryl Underwood, and Morgan Freeman; and

WHEREAS, John Hanks Alexander, from Arkansas, was the very first African American in United States history to hold a regular command position as the Troop Commander of B Troop, 9th Cavalry,

NOW THEREFORE,  
BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE NINETY-FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS:

THAT the House of Representatives celebrate Black Veterans Month during the month of February, 2023, and recognize the sacrifices and contributions made by African American veterans.