

As Introduced

**135th General Assembly
Regular Session
2023-2024**

H. R. No. 95

Representatives Upchurch, Miller, A.

A RESOLUTION

To urge the Congress of the United States to enact
H.R. 1255 to make direct descendants of Black
veterans of World War II eligible for Veterans
Administration housing loans and education
benefits.

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BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE STATE OF OHIO:

WHEREAS, President Roosevelt signed the Servicemen's
Readjustment Act (G.I. Bill) on June 22, 1944, establishing into
law sweeping benefits for veterans, including college tuition,
low-cost home loans, and unemployment insurance; and

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WHEREAS, Racial disparities in the implementation of the
G.I. Bill prevented Black veterans from securing the G.I. Bill's
benefits; and

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WHEREAS, Black veterans who qualified for benefits often
could not find facilities that delivered on the G.I. Bill's
promise; and

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WHEREAS, Although the G.I. Bill guaranteed low-interest
mortgages and other loans, they were not administered by the
Department of Veterans Affairs itself. Thus, the Department
could cosign, but not actually guarantee the loans. This gave
financial institutions free rein to refuse mortgages and loans

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to Black veterans; and 21

WHEREAS, Redlining, a practice of marking maps by race to 22
characterize the risks of lending money and providing insurance, 23
made purchasing a home even more difficult for Black veterans; 24
and 25

WHEREAS, On February 28, 2023, Massachusetts Congressman 26
Seth Wilbur Moulton introduced H.R. 1255, a bill that proposes 27
to make up for the incalculable loss of opportunities by making 28
the direct descendants of Black World War II veterans eligible 29
for Veterans Administration housing loans and education 30
benefits; now therefore be it 31

RESOLVED, That we, the members of the House of 32
Representatives of the 135th General Assembly of the State of 33
Ohio, in adopting this resolution, urge the Congress of the 34
United States to enact H.R. 1255 of the 118th Congress, to 35
extend to Black veterans of World War II, and surviving spouses 36
and certain direct descendants of such veterans, eligibility for 37
housing loans and educational assistance administered by the 38
Secretary of Veterans Affairs; and be it further 39

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the House of Representatives 40
transmit duly authenticated copies of this resolution to the 41
Speaker and Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, 42
the President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the United States 43
Senate, each member of the Ohio Congressional delegation, and 44
the news media of Ohio. 45