



**Representative Terrence Upchurch  
20<sup>th</sup> House District**

Chairman McClain, Vice Chair Dobos, Ranking Member Grim, and members of the House Transportation Committee - thank you for the opportunity to provide sponsor testimony on House Bill 253. This bill would designate the area from the Charles Young National Monument in Wilberforce, Ohio to the Kentucky/Ohio Bridge in Ripley as the “Brigadier General Charles Young Memorial Historical Corridor”

Charles Young is the epitome of hard work and dedication, and he never allowed his starting point to define his ending. Being born to enslaved parents, he had humble beginnings but went on to become a pioneer and a symbol of Black excellence. Charles was the third African American cadet to graduate from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1889. From there, he was appointed Major in the Ohio National Guard in 1898 and later became a professor of Military Science at Wilberforce University.

This historical corridor would link Wilberforce, Ohio (home of the Charles Young National Monument) and Camp Nelson in Kentucky which played a significant role in Black Military history during the Civil War. This would commemorate General Charles Young’s teaching in Wilberforce, as well as his extensive military presence and background.

Thank you, members of the Transportation Committee, for allowing me to give sponsor testimony on House Bill 253. I strongly urge your support.

***Committees:***

Ranking: Economic & Workforce Development  
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***Contact:***

(614) 466 7954  
rep20@ohiohouse.gov  
77 S. High St Columbus, OH 43215