

Transcript of Undated [1868]: Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Maryland to the United States Congress, Memorial on subject of bounty laws for ex-slaves, L.C. Gulley collection, Arkansas State Archives, Little Rock, Arkansas.

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Memorial

To the Honorable Senate and House  
of Representatives of the United  
States in Congress assembled.

Your memorialists the Senate and  
House of Representatives of the State  
of Maryland respectfully represent  
that.

Whereas bounty Laws of the most liberal  
character were enacted by your honorable  
body for the purpose of inducing  
men to enlist in the service  
of the United States and to compensate  
them for such service;  
during and since the War of the  
Rebellion and

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whereas a distinction was made  
as to the persons who were entitled  
to receive such bounty, preventing  
those who were marked as slaves  
on their Company rolls from getting  
the bounty provided by the  
act of Congress approved Oct 2nd, 1862  
of one hundred dollars and,  
whereas there are now several thousand men  
residing in this State whose  
military record show them to have  
been slaves and by law not entitled  
to the above mentioned bounty and  
whereas the necessity of making the  
distinction above mentioned no longer  
exists; if it ever had an existence

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We therefore ask your honorable body  
to provide by legislation for the payment  
of the bounties to all soldiers  
alike in strict accordance with the  
bounty laws in force at the time of  
their enlistment without regard to  
race color previous condition or  
record of slavery.