



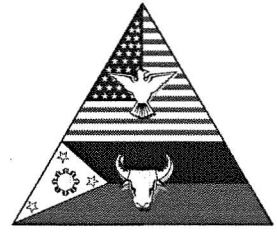
WW II Fil-Am Veterans

HAWAII CHAPTER

851 N. School St., Apt. # 307 * Honolulu, Hawaii 96817

Phone No. (808) 677-4999 * Reg. No. 933595-D-2

E-mail: FilAmVetHi-owner@yahoo.com



TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF **HCR22/HR22** THE FILIPINO VETERANS FAMILY REUNIFICATION ACT.

PSM - March 27, 2008 - 11:30 a.m. CR 309

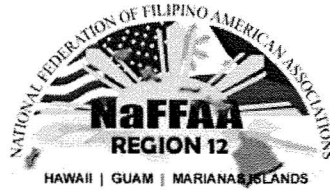
To: Rep. Cindy Evans, Chair & Rep. Sharon Har, Vice Chair and members of PSM

Chair Evans and VC Har and distinguished members of the PSM committee. My name is Ernesto Tesoro-VP & Art Caleda, President of the W.W.II Fil-Am Veterans, Hawaii Chapter with almost one thousand five hundred veterans including veterans on the outer islands.

On behalf of all the Filipino Veterans of WWII, I wish to testify in support of **HCR22/HR22** PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF JUNE 2008 AS FILIPINO VETERANS APPRECIATION MONTH.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify in support.

LATE TESTIMONY



LATE TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HCR 22

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

March 27, 2008, 11:30 a.m.

Conference Room 309

Measure Title: PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF JUNE 2008 AS FILIPINO VETERANS APPRECIATION MONTH.

To:

Hon. Rep. Cindy Evans, Chair

Hon. Rep. Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair;

Hon. Members of the House Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

From:

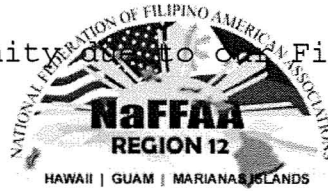
Amy Agbayani, Assistant Vice Chair, NaFFAA Region 12

3432 B1 Kalihi St., Honolulu, HI 96819

My name is Amy Agbayani. I serve as Vice Chair of the National Federation of Filipino American Associations Region 12, which represents the interests of Filipinos in Hawai'i, Guam, and the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands. NaFFAA Region 12 is an affiliate of the National NaFFAA, which is recognized by Washington policy-makers, private industry and national advocacy groups as the Voice of Filipinos and Filipino Americans throughout the United States. We are a non-partisan, non-profit national affiliation of more than five hundred Filipino-American institutions and umbrella organizations that span twelve regions throughout the continental United States and U.S. Pacific territories.

NaFFAA strongly supports this measure to proclaim June as Filipino Veterans Appreciation Month. NaFFAA continues to spearhead nationwide advocacy initiatives as more Filipino WWII veterans die without the rights and benefits accorded to other veterans, who served in the same war. We thank you for hearing this very important bill, and respectfully request your support

of social justice and dignity due to our Filipino veterans and their families.



Sincerely,

Amy Agbayani, Ph.D., Assistant Vice Chair
NaFFAA Region 12

LATE TESTIMONY



HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
March 27, 2008, 11:30 a.m. | Conference Room 309

Measure Title: PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF JUNE 2008 AS FILIPINO VETERANS APPRECIATION MONTH.

To: Hon. Rep. Cindy Evans, Chair
Hon. Rep. Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair
Hon. Members of the House Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

LATE TESTIMONY

From: Charlene Cuaresma, President, Filipino Coalition for Solidarity

My name is Charlene Cuaresma. As president of the Filipino Coalition for Solidarity, I am submitting testimony in strong support of this bill. Since its inception in 1990, the Coalition has represented more than 50 Filipino community leaders whose aim is to work for social justice issues to empower Filipinos to make socially responsible contributions to Hawai'i and our global neighbors through education, advocacy, and social action.

Instituting June as Filipino Veterans Appreciation Month, is aligned with the spirit of a resolution passed at the Coalition's General Assembly in September 2005 to advocate for full equity for Filipino WWII Veterans. It is imperative that society be informed with historical facts and lessons of social justice for Filipino veterans.

Your help to pass this bill would go a long way to bring judicial closure and dignity to our Filipino WWII Veterans who have been stripped of the rights and privileges afforded to all other allied troops who had fought on behalf of the United States in World War II. Thank you for this opportunity to speak on behalf of our Filipino WWII veterans. Please support this bill.

Respectfully,

Charlene Cuaresma
President, Filipino Coalition for Solidarity

Filipino American Citizens League

Jake Manegdeg, President
P. O. Box 270126 * Honolulu, Hawai'i 96827

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HCR 22

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

March 27, 2008, 11:30 a.m.

Conference Room 309

Measure Title:

PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF JUNE 2008 AS
FILIPINO VETERANS APPRECIATION MONTH.

LATE TESTIMONY

To:

Hon. Rep. Cindy Evans, Chair

Hon. Rep. Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair;

Hon. Members of the House Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

From:

Jake Manegdeg, President, Filipino American Citizens League

My name is Jake Manegdeg. As president of the Filipino American Citizens League, I am proud to submit our full and strong support of this bill. The Filipino American Citizens League was formed over ten years ago to contribute to the advancement of civil rights and social justice for minority groups, underserved populations, and vulnerable communities through education, advocacy, and social action.

June as Filipino Veterans Appreciation Month will bring justice to our Filipino World War II veterans. Please help us restore their human dignity with the passage of this bill. The American public will benefit from learning about the history and role of Filipino WWII veterans, so we will rectify, and not repeat historical injustices in the future. Thank you for the opportunity to testify. Please vote yes for its enactment.

Very Sincerely,

Jake Manegdeg, President

Filipino American Citizens League



LATE TESTIMONY

CONGRESS OF VISAYAN ORGANIZATIONS

Testimony in Support of HCR 22

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS
March 27, 2008, 11:30 a.m.
Conference Room 309

Measure Title: PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF JUNE 2008 AS FILIPINO VETERANS APPRECIATION MONTH.

To:

Hon. Rep. Cindy Evans, Chair; Hon. Rep. Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair
Hon. Members of the House Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

From:

Margarita Hopkins, President & Serafin Colmenares, Jr., Vice President
Congress of Visayan Organizations

Honorable Chair, Vice Chair, and Members of the House Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs Committee:

My name is Margarita Hopkins, President of the Congress of Visayan Organizations, which is a statewide umbrella organization that represents 22 unit organizations of Visayan ancestry.

I testify in strong support of this proposed legislation. With due diligence and bravery, our Filipino WWII veterans, in particular, have put themselves in harm's way to protect Americans, yet they are the only U.S. WWII allied troops to have their veterans benefits and rights rescinded by Congress in 1946. Please support this social justice issue by enacting this measure to proclaim June as Filipino Veterans Appreciation Month. It is our duty to advocate for the veterans, as they age, become more vulnerable, and are in dire need of family support. Lessons learned from righting a wrong is important for all global citizens to understand.

Thank you for hearing this important bill, and for this opportunity to testify. We appreciate your consideration to vote yes.

For the President:

Serafin Colmenares Jr.
Executive Vice President
Congress of Visayan Organizations

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HCR22 & HR22

I support HCR22 & HR22, PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF JUNE 2008 AS FILIPINO VETERANS APPRECIATION MONTH, as these resolutions recognize the Filipino Veterans who defended our Country.

The Filipino soldiers and scouts helped to reestablish United States authority in the Pacific and protected our positioning against enemy forces during World War II.

The Filipino community would most certainly be proud of this fine recognition and per capita, Hawaii has the highest Filipino population.

Dr. Leolani Oyama
Private Citizen and Resident of Hawaii

LATE TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY IN SUPPORT OF HCR22 & HR22

I support HCR22 & HR22, PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF JUNE 2008 AS FILIPINO VETERANS APPRECIATION MONTH, as these resolutions recognize the Filipino Veterans who defended our Country during World War II.

After the attack on Pearl Harbor, over 200,000 Filipino Soldiers were called to serve for the U.S. Military.

Our Filipino soldiers and scouts helped turn the war in favor of the United States and together with U.S. Forces protected our military striking ability in the Pacific during World War II.

The people of Hawaii would love to honor our outstanding Filipino Veterans, many of whom are in their 80's or 90's.

I ask that you pass these resolutions to recognize and honor a part of U.S. Military History, our Filipino Veterans.

Josephine Besario
Resident of Hawaii

LATE TESTIMONY

TESTIMONY IN STRONG SUPPORT OF HCR 22

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SAFETY AND MILITARY AFFAIRS

March 20, 2008, 9 a.m.

Conference Room 309

Measure Title: PROCLAIMING THE MONTH OF JUNE 2008 AS FILIPINO VETERANS APPRECIATION MONTH.

To:

Hon. Rep. Cindy Evans, Chair

Hon. Rep. Sharon E. Har, Vice Chair

Hon. Members of the House Committee on Public Safety and Military Affairs

From:

Maria Etrata, Co-Chair

The Primary Care Providers of Hawaii (TPCP, Hi)

c/o 98-1465 Hoomahie Loop

Pearl City, HI 96786

LATE TESTIMONY

My name is Maria Etrata. I submit very strong support for HR 22 on behalf of The Primary Care Providers of Hawaii (TPCP, Hi), which is a caregivers association comprised of business leaders of Care Homes, Foster homes, RACC Homes, DD Homes, Home & Community Services of Hawaii (HCSH), Preferred Home & Community Based Services, Inc. (PHCBS), adult agency providers of day care and outreach services in Oahu, and Independent Contractors Service providers throughout Hawaii.

Enactment of this resolution will help to increase public awareness and appreciation for the sacrifice and historical contributions made by Filipino World War II veterans. This is especially important as members of the U.S. Congress weigh the cost of rectifying the 1946 Rescission Act, which took away the rights and privileges earned by these veterans.

Thank you for this opportunity to provide this testimony. Please consider voting yes.

Sincerely,

Maria Etrata, Co-Chair

The Primary Care Providers of Hawaii (TPCP, Hi)