

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1752

Honolulu, Hawaii

April 16, 2009

RE: H.R. No. 270

H.D. 1

Honorable Calvin K.Y. Say
Speaker, House of Representatives
Twenty-Fifth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2009
State of Hawaii

Sir:

Your Committee on Economic Revitalization, Business, &
Military Affairs, to which was referred H.R. No. 270 entitled:

"HOUSE RESOLUTION URGING THE UNITED STATES PRESIDENT AND
SENATORS AND CONGRESS MEMBERS TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO
EXPEDITE IMMIGRANT VISAS FOR FAMILY REUNIFICATION OF CERTAIN
FILIPINO VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this resolution is to urge the United States
(U.S.) President and Congress to enact legislation to expedite
immigrant visas to reunite World War II (WWII) Filipino veterans
with their children.

WWII Fil-Am Veterans, Hawaii Chapter and several concerned
individuals supported this measure.

Filipino soldiers were called to service in WWII, were
promised full veterans benefits, and served side-by-side with
American soldiers to defend our country. When their service was
complete, unlike other national groups, they were denied full U.S.
veteran status, including pensions and other benefits. Congress
in 1990 partially redressed this wrong when it provided a waiver
of certain immigration and naturalization requirements. But in so
doing, Congress failed to extend these benefits to the veterans'
children.

HR270 HD1 HSCR EBM HMS 2009-3741



Today, the youngest of the WWII Filipino veterans are approaching 80. Many are bedridden, or have died alone, without the support or comfort of their families. Your Committee finds that the adoption of a federal law to expedite immigrant visas and reunite these veterans with their families is long overdue.

Your Committee has amended this measure by:

- (1) Adding the President of the Republic of the Philippines, Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and American Coalition for Filipino Veterans to the list of persons and organizations that are to receive a certified copy of this resolution;
- (2) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments to the title. As amended, the title reads, "URGING THE UNITED STATES PRESIDENT, SENATE, AND HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO ENACT LEGISLATION TO EXPEDITE IMMIGRANT VISAS FOR FAMILY REUNIFICATION OF CERTAIN FILIPINO VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II"; and
- (3) Making other technical, nonsubstantive amendments for clarity, consistency, and style.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Economic Revitalization, Business, & Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of H.R. No. 270, as amended herein, and recommends its adoption in the form attached hereto as H.R. No. 270, H.D. 1.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Economic
Revitalization, Business, &
Military Affairs,



ANGUS L.K. MCKELVEY, Chair



State of Hawaii
House of Representatives
The Twenty-fifth Legislature

HSCR 1752

Record of Votes of the Committee on Economic Revitalization, Business, & Military Affairs

Bill/Resolution No.: HR 270	Committee Referral: HRS, EBM	Date: 4/7/09		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on the measure.				
The recommendation is to: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended (as is) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments (HD) <input type="checkbox"/> Hold <input type="checkbox"/> Pass short form bill with HD to recommit for future public hearing (recommit)				
EBM Members	Ayes	Ayes (WR)	Nays	Excused
1. McKELVEY, Angus L.K. (C)	✓			
2. CHOY, Isaac W. (VC)	✓			
3. BERG, Lyla B.				✓
4. EVANS, Cindy	✓			
5. MANAHAN, Joey	✓			
6. TAKAI, K. Mark				
7. TOKIOKA, James Kunane				✓
8. TSUJI, Clift	✓			
9. WAKAI, Glenn				✓
10. WOOLEY, Jessica	✓			
11. WARD, Gene				✓
TOTAL (11)	6			4
The recommendation is: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted If joint referral, _____ did not support recommendation. committee acronym(s)				
Vice Chair's or designee's signature:				
Distribution: Original (White) – Committee Duplicate (Yellow) – Chief Clerk's Office Duplicate (Pink) – HMSO				