## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TWENTY-SEVENTH LEGISLATURE, 2014 STATE OF HAWAII

H.C.R. NO. 4

## HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

URGING THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES AND THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO GRANT VETERANS BENEFITS TO FILIPINO VETERANS WHO FOUGHT IN WORLD WAR II BUT WERE SUBSEQUENTLY DENIED THE BENEFITS TO WHICH THEY WERE ENTITLED.

1	WHEREAS, during World War II, the Philippines was a United
2	States commonwealth; and
3 4	WHEREAS, Filipino soldiers volunteered their services after
4 5	being promised full veterans benefits to volunteer to fight for
6	the United States against the potential threat of Japan; and
7	
8	WHEREAS, thousands of Filipino men and women risked their
9	lives against the invading Japanese forces and assisted our
10	nation in its efforts to liberate the Philippines; and
11	
12	WHEREAS, Filipino soldiers fought bravely beside American
13 14	troops to restore liberty and democracy to their homeland; and
14 15	WHEREAS, exhibiting great courage at the battles of
16	Corregidor and Bataan, Filipino soldiers contributed to the
17	Allied victory that ended Word War II; and
18	
19	WHEREAS, in 1941, by executive order, Filipinos who
20	volunteered for the Philippine Commonwealth Army and Philippine
21	Scouts were made eligible for full United States veterans
22	benefits for their active service during the war; and the second
23	WURDER of 1046 her service stored and when the
24 25	WHEREAS, in 1946, by congressional act and upon the independence of the Philippines, these same Filipino veterans
25 26	were denied eligibility for United States veterans benefits,
20 27	such as health care, disability pensions, and burial expenses;
28	and

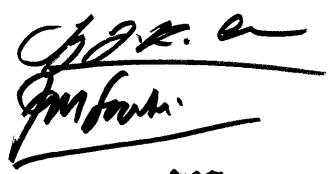


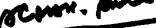
## H.C.R. NO. 4\

WHEREAS, over the years, Congress has considered 1 2 legislation to restore the benefits denied to Filipino veterans; 3 and 4 5 WHEREAS, the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 included a provision that called for the release of funding for 6 7 lump sum payments to Filipino veterans in lieu of pensions; and 8 9 WHEREAS, restoring benefits denied to Filipino veterans and 10 fulfilling and expediting any claims that are still pending honors those Filipino veterans who served our nation so 11 12 courageously; now, therefore, 13 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the 14 15 Twenty-seventh Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2014, the Senate concurring, that the President of 16 the United States and the United States Congress are urged to 17 grant veterans benefits to Filipino veterans who fought in World 18 War II but were subsequently denied the benefits to which they 19 20 were entitled; and 21 22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that providing these benefits does not correct the injustice and discrimination done over 60 years 23 ago, but is a small step in making reparations; and 24 25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this 26 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the 27 United States, President Pro Tempore of the United States 28 Senate, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, 29 Hawaii's Congressional delegation, Secretary of the United 30 States Department of Veterans Affairs, Director of the Hawaii 31 Office of Veterans Services, President of the Republic of the 32 Philippines, and Philippine Consul General in Hawaii. 33 34 35 36 OFFERED BY: HCR HMS 2014-1110

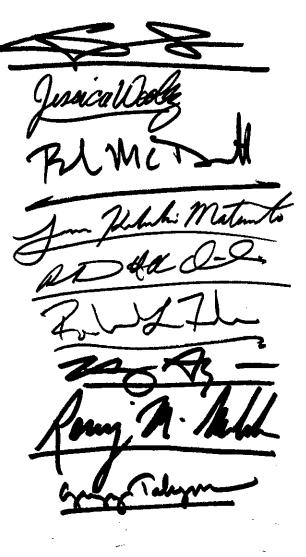
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