

---

---

# HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

REQUESTING THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS TO ENACT THE FILIPINO AMERICAN VETERANS EQUITY ACT OF 2007 BY ADOPTING H.R. 760 AND S. 57, OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION, TO PROVIDE FEDERAL VETERANS BENEFITS AND SERVICES TO WORLD WAR II FILIPINO AND FILIPINO AMERICAN VETERANS.

1           WHEREAS, on July 26, 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt  
2 issued Military Order No. 81, placing the Philippine  
3 Commonwealth Armed Forces and the Special Philippine Scouts  
4 under the United States Armed Forces command to join the  
5 military assault against the Japanese forces in defense of  
6 America's democracy; and  
7

8           WHEREAS, throughout 1941-1946, tens of thousands of  
9 Filipino soldiers were held as prisoners, risking their lives  
10 and the lives of their families while maintaining underground  
11 battles against the invading Japanese forces and boldly  
12 assisting the United States Armed Forces in its campaign to  
13 liberate the Philippines; and  
14

15           WHEREAS, Filipino wartime veterans, many of whom were  
16 permanently disabled and honorably discharged from the military  
17 after serving more than ninety days on active duty military  
18 service during World War II are eligible for federal veterans  
19 benefits and services; and  
20

21           WHEREAS, former President Bill Clinton on October 17, 1996,  
22 President George W. Bush on July 26, 2001, and the United States  
23 Congress by H.R. 622/S. 387 on September 13, 2006, recognized  
24 and proclaimed the vital role that the Filipino wartime soldiers  
25 played in assisting the United States Armed Forces to defeat the  
26 invading Japanese forces in defense of freedom; and  
27

28           WHEREAS, despite these formal acknowledgements of Filipino  
29 and Filipino American veterans' contributions to the cause of



1 the United States during World War II, they have not received  
2 veterans benefits and services from the federal government, a  
3 long standing moral injustice that needs to be corrected; now,  
4 therefore,  
5

6 BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives of the  
7 Twenty-fourth Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular  
8 Session of 2007, the Senate concurring, that the United States  
9 Congress and United States President George W. Bush are  
10 respectfully requested and urged to enact the Filipino Veterans  
11 Equity Act of 2007, also known as H.R. 760 and S. 57, or similar  
12 legislation, to provide federal veterans benefits and services  
13 to Filipino World War II veterans; and  
14

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
16 Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the President of the  
17 United States, the Secretary of Defense, the Majority and  
18 Minority Leaders of the United States Senate, the Speaker and  
19 Minority Leader of the United States House of Representatives,  
20 and members of Hawaii's congressional delegation.  
21  
22  
23

OFFERED BY:

<i>John M. Tappin</i>	<i>Michael H. Miyagawa</i>
<i>Della C. Selatti</i>	<i>Palmdale Smith</i>
<i>James J. [unclear]</i>	<i>Manuel [unclear]</i>
<i>D.W. [unclear]</i>	<i>James [unclear]</i>
<i>Rickie T.R. Cobble</i>	<i>John P. Krumholz</i>
<i>[unclear]</i>	<i>Alfred M. [unclear]</i>
<i>[unclear]</i>	<i>Jyle B. Berg</i>
<i>[unclear]</i>	<i>William M. [unclear]</i>
<i>[unclear]</i>	<i>[unclear]</i>

