

STAND. COM. REP. NO.

1044

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 14 2007

RE: S.R. No. 18

Honorable Colleen Hanabusa
President of the Senate
Twenty-Fourth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2007
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committee on Intergovernmental and Military Affairs, to which was referred S.R. No. 18 entitled:

"SENATE RESOLUTION REQUESTING ENACTMENT OF H.R. 901/S. 4070, "FILIPINO FAMILY REUNIFICATION", OR SIMILAR LEGISLATION THAT GRANTS THE PRIORITY ISSUANCE OF VISAS TO VETERANS' CHILDREN WITH APPROVED IMMIGRATION PETITIONS,"

begs leave to report as follows:

The purpose of this measure is to grant the priority issuance of visas to Filipino veterans' children with approved immigration petitions.

Your Committee received testimony in support of this measure from the United Filipino Council of Hawaii, Asian American Network for Cancer Awareness Research and Training - Hawaii, Philippine Nurses Association - Hawaii, Nursing Advocates and Mentors, Inc., Oahu Filipino Community Council, Congress of Visayan Organizations, Filipino Coalition for Solidarity, and the National Federation of Filipino American Associations, Region 12. Oral testimony was given by World War II Filipino-American Veterans Association - Hawaii.

Your Committee finds that members of the Philippine Commonwealth Armed Forces and the Special Philippine Scouts were drafted into the United States Armed Forces by the Military Order of July 26, 1941, and from 1941-1946, tens of thousands of Filipino soldiers risked their lives assisting the United States Armed Forces in its campaign to liberate the Philippines.



Your Committee further finds that the Immigration Act of 1990 awarded citizenship to each veteran, but unfairly excluded the veterans' dependants by requiring each veteran to submit an immigrant petition with supporting affidavits requesting that the veterans' dependents be permitted to live with the veteran. To this end, it is the intent of your Committee to support the granting of priority issuance of visas to veterans' children with approved immigration petitions in order for the veterans to be reunited with their family members.

As affirmed by the record of votes of the members of your Committee on Intergovernmental and Military Affairs that is attached to this report, your Committee concurs with the intent and purpose of S.R. No. 18 and recommends its adoption.

Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committee on Intergovernmental
and Military Affairs,


LORRAINE R. INOUE, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Fourth Legislature
State of Hawaii

Record of Votes
Committee on Intergovernmental and Military Affairs
IGM

Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">SR 18</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">IGM</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">3/12/07</div>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313 </div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
INOUE, Lorraine R. (C)	/			
TSUTSUI, Shan S. (VC)	/			
HEMMINGS, Fred	/			
TOTAL	3			
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="font-family: cursive; font-size: 1.2em;"> </div>				
Distribution: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; margin-top: 5px;"> <div>Original File with Committee Report</div> <div>Yellow Clerk's Office</div> <div>Pink Drafting Agency</div> </div>				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes