5

SENATE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

RECOGNIZING THE SEVENTY-FIFTH ANNIVERSARY OF DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES.

WHEREAS, the Filipino-American community is among the largest Asian-American and Pacific Islander groups in the United States of America; and

WHEREAS, Filipino-Americans have helped shape the history of the State and have contributed to the development of Hawaii from the arrival of the first fifteen Filipino plantation workers on December 20, 1906, up to the present; and

WHEREAS, individuals of Filipino ethnicity in Hawaii make up the largest portion of the State's population; and

WHEREAS, Filipinos have a long-standing history of serving in the Armed Forces of the United States, with many having received the Congressional Medal of Honor, and continue to demonstrate a sense of patriotism and honor in the Armed Forces; and

WHEREAS, strong ties of friendship and cooperation link the peoples of Hawaii and the Philippines, demonstrated by the existence of economic and people-to-people exchanges as well as the large number of sister city relationships between the cities and counties of Hawaii and cities and municipalities of the Philippines; and

WHEREAS, the United States of America and the Republic of the Philippines established diplomatic relations on July 4, 1946; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2021, the House of Representatives concurring, that this body recognizes the seventy-fifth anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between the United States of America and the Republic of the Philippines on July 4, 2021; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body is committed to exploring opportunities for mutually beneficial cooperation between the people of Hawaii and the Philippines; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body urges the Philippine Consulate General in Honolulu to continue to promote Filipino-American culture and traditions in keeping with the long history shared between Hawaii and the Philippines; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this body renews its support for the democratic institutions and processes established in the Philippines and their commitment to the preservation of and respect for human rights and dignity; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this Concurrent Resolution be transmitted to the Governor and Philippine Consulate General in Honolulu.