

---

---

# SENATE RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE NAMING OF A UNITED STATES NAVY  
SURFACE COMBATANT SHIP AFTER FIREMAN SECOND CLASS AND  
CONGRESSIONAL MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENT TELESFORO TRINIDAD.

1           WHEREAS, United States Navy ships have traditionally been  
2 named by the Secretary of the Navy, under the direction of the  
3 President of the United States and in accordance with rules  
4 prescribed by Congress; and

5  
6           WHEREAS, multiple members of Congress, including  
7 Representative Ed Case of Hawaii and Representative Sara Jacobs  
8 of California, signed a letter authored by Jacobs and dated  
9 May 26, 2021, to the Acting Secretary of the Navy in strong  
10 support of naming a Navy surface combatant ship after United  
11 States Navy Fireman Second Class Telesforo Trinidad, who  
12 received the Congressional Medal of Honor in 1915; and

13  
14           WHEREAS, the May 26, 2021, letter cited numerous reasons  
15 for the request, including the following:

- 16  
17           (1) The Medal of Honor highlights the importance of  
18 service and sacrifice for shipmates and country both  
19 in times of war and in day-to-day operations;  
20  
21           (2) Trinidad was awarded the Medal of Honor in accordance  
22 with General Order Number 142, which was signed by  
23 Secretary of the Navy Josephus Daniels on April 1,  
24 1915;  
25  
26           (3) Trinidad earned the Medal of Honor for showing  
27 extraordinary heroism in the line of duty in response  
28 to boiler explosions aboard the USS San Diego (ACR-6)  
29 that occurred when the ship was in the Gulf of  
30 California on January 21, 1915; more specifically,  
31 Trinidad brought two crewmembers to safety despite  
32 being physically injured by the explosions;  
33



- 1 (4) One hundred and six years later, Trinidad continues to
- 2 hold the distinction of being the only Asian American
- 3 and only Filipino American in the United States Navy
- 4 to have received a Medal of Honor;
- 5
- 6 (5) The naming of a Navy ship in honor of Trinidad would
- 7 demonstrate the Navy's leadership and commitment to
- 8 diversity, equality, and inclusion amid current racial
- 9 tensions and unwarranted violence against Asian
- 10 Americans and Pacific Islanders nationwide, and would
- 11 also mark the seventy-fifth anniversary of the
- 12 establishment of diplomatic relations between the
- 13 United States and the Republic of the Philippines and
- 14 the seventieth anniversary of the Mutual Defense
- 15 Treaty between the two countries; and
- 16
- 17 (6) The naming of a Navy ship after Trinidad would also
- 18 honor the faithful and loyal service, since 1901, of
- 19 tens of thousands of Filipinos and Filipino Americans
- 20 in the United States Navy; would result in the first-
- 21 ever Navy ship bearing the name of an American
- 22 national of Filipino descent; and would evidence the
- 23 long-standing military and political alliance that has
- 24 existed between the United States and the Philippines
- 25 since 1898; now, therefore,
- 26

27 BE IT RESOLVED by the Senate of the Thirty-first  
 28 Legislature of the State of Hawaii, Regular Session of 2022,  
 29 that this body supports the naming of a United States Navy  
 30 surface combatant ship after Fireman Second Class and  
 31 Congressional Medal of Honor recipient Telesforo Trinidad; and  
 32

33 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that certified copies of this  
 34 Resolution be transmitted to the Secretary of the United States  
 35 Navy and members of the Hawaii congressional delegation.