

A Bill for an Act Relating to Filipino Veterans.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Hawaii:

SECTION 1. The legislature finds that it is of great importance to honor and commemorate the Filipino veterans of World War II who fought with remarkable valor and dedication alongside the victorious Allied forces during World War II.

In December 2016, President Obama signed into a law a measure that collectively awarded the Congressional Gold Medal, the nation's highest civilian honor, to more than two hundred sixty thousand surviving and deceased Filipino veterans of World War II, including those from the Philippines, United States, and Territory of Hawaii, who fought under the American flag during World War II.

Establishing a monument to honor and commemorate Filipino veterans of World War II would show Hawaii's gratitude to these Filipino veterans, provide a visual reminder of these Filipino veterans' unique place in American and global history, and educate the public on the role that minorities played in the outcome of World War II.

The purpose of this Act is to authorize the state foundation on culture and the arts to commission an artist to design and build a monument to honor and commemorate Filipino veterans of World War II.

SECTION 2. The state foundation on culture and the arts shall:

- (1) Commission an artist to design and build a monument to honor and commemorate Filipino veterans of World War II; and
- (2) Select the location of the monument.

SECTION 3. There is appropriated out of the works of art special fund established by section 103-8.5, Hawaii Revised Statutes, the sum of \$200,000 or so much thereof as may be necessary for fiscal year 2017-2018 to design and build the monument identified in section 2 of this Act.

The sum appropriated shall be expended by the state foundation on culture and the arts for the purposes of this Act.

SECTION 4. This Act shall take effect on July 1, 2017.

(Approved June 19, 2017.)