

1 [Urging 108<sup>th</sup> Congress to Pass Filipino Veterans Equity Act of 2003]

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3 **Resolution urging 108<sup>th</sup> U.S. Congress to pass HR 677: Filipino Veterans Equity Act of**  
4 **2003.**

5 WHEREAS, Over 250,000 Filipino veterans fought under the auspices of the United  
6 States Armed Forces during World War II: and,

7 WHEREAS, Filipino veterans who served under the U.S. Armed Forces were denied  
8 full veteran' status and eligibility for veterans benefits under the Surplus Appropriation  
9 Rescission Act of 1946; and,

10 WHEREAS, An overwhelming majority of the approximately 12,000 Filipino veterans  
11 who are U.S. citizens receive minimum benefits and die at a 57 percent higher rate than their  
12 American counterparts due to the lack of access to Veterans Affairs (VA) medical facilities;  
13 and,

14 WHEREAS, In 1990, Congress passed legislation that allowed Filipino World War II  
15 veterans who proved their honorable military service to become naturalized U.S. citizens; and,

16 WHEREAS, The current Congress is considering HR 677, the Filipino Veterans Equity  
17 Act of 2003, which would effectively restore veterans eligibility status to Filipino veterans who  
18 served under the U.S. Armed Forces during World War II; now, therefore be it

19 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco  
20 urges the 108<sup>th</sup> U.S. Congress to pass the Filipino Veterans Equity Act of 2003 during the  
21 current session and provide long overdue recognition and support to the Filipino men who  
22 bravely risked their lives during World War II in the service of the United States.  
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