

1 [Commendation and support for continued funding for the San Francisco Filipino Veterans
2 Equity Center (SFVEC).]

3 **Resolution commending the significant efforts of the San Francisco Veterans Equity**
4 **Center (SFVEC), for providing social, educational, legal, recreational and other**
5 **services to over 800 Filipino veterans and urging the Mayor to allocate \$250,000 as an**
6 **annual budget line item beginning with the Fiscal Year 2001-02 to support the**
7 **continued operations of the Filipino Veterans Equity Center.**

8
9 WHEREAS, On July 26, 1941, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt drafted 140,000
10 Filipino soldiers into military services who fought side by side with their American comrades in
11 the battles of Bataan and Corregidor, endured the Bataan "Death March" and many of them
12 later became guerrillas who harassed the Japanese invaders and helped pave the way to
13 freedom and democracy during World War II; and,

14 WHEREAS, Despite the courage and sacrifices of the Filipino soldiers, the U.S.
15 Congress passed the 1946 Rescission Act that singled out and excluded Filipino World War II
16 veterans from receiving full U. S. veterans benefits; and

17 WHEREAS, In 1990, the U.S. Congress finally passed legislation that allowed
18 surviving Filipino World War II Veterans who could prove their military service to become U.S.
19 citizens; and

20 WHEREAS, about 30,000 Filipino Veterans have become U.S. citizens and about
21 3,000 of them have since settled in the Bay Area and are current San Francisco residents,
22 particularly in the Tenderloin, South of Market and Mission districts; and

1 WHEREAS, The Filipino Veterans are in their late 70s and 80s, many of them are in
2 deteriorating health with little or no family support, and are often dependent on SSI and
3 volunteer assistance; and

4 WHEREAS, The courage, service and sacrifices of Filipino Veterans of W.W.II who
5 fought for freedom and democracy has never been recognized in the U.S. Congress; and

6 WHEREAS, In May 1999, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed a resolution
7 supporting the creation of the San Francisco Veterans Equity Centers to address the special
8 needs of these Filipino veterans and to provide culturally sensitive and linguistically
9 appropriate services to Filipino World War II Veterans and allocated funds for its support; and

10 WHEREAS, The SFVEC has since received commendation for its effective delivery of
11 services by the State of California Community Services and Development Department and
12 had approved a grant of \$50,000 to augment services that are needed by the Filipino
13 Veterans; and

14 WHEREAS, The funding granted by the City and County of San Francisco in 1999 had
15 been totally depleted and that the SFVEC runs the risk of closing its operation if no additional
16 support is granted by the City and County of San Francisco; and

17 WHEREAS, The SFVEC has been known nationally as the only direct service agency
18 specifically addressing the needs of the Filipino Veterans and that with the creation of the
19 SFVEC in San Francisco contributed to the restoration of the honor and dignity of these war
20 veterans by addressing their immediate needs; and

21 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Board of Supervisors recognizes the importance and
22 significance of maintaining the SFVEC, a community-based center that will continue to
23 provide culturally competent and linguistically appropriate services to the Filipino Veterans
24 and their families; now, therefore, be it

1 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco
2 support and endorses the continuing operations of the San Francisco Veterans Equity
3 Center, which will continue to coordinate community efforts to provide case management,
4 health education/assessment, legal, recreational, social, vocational and other services to the
5 Filipino World War II veterans and their families; and, be it

6 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San
7 Francisco urges the Mayor to allocate \$250,000 as an annual budget line item beginning with
8 the Fiscal Year 2001-02 to support the continued operations of the San Francisco Filipino
9 Veterans Equity Center.



City and County of San Francisco

City Hall
1 Dr. Carlton B. Goodlett Place
San Francisco, CA 94102-4689

Tails
Resolution

File Number: 010702

Date Passed:

Resolution commending the significant efforts of the San Francisco Veterans Equity Center (SFVEC), for providing social, educational, legal, recreational and other services to over 800 Filipino veterans and urging the Mayor to allocate \$250,000 an annual budget line item beginning with the Fiscal Year 2001-02 to support the continued operations of the Filipino Veterans Equity Center.

April 23, 2001 Board of Supervisors — ADOPTED

Ayes: 6 - Daly, Gonzalez, Hall, Maxwell, McGoldrick, Peskin

Absent: 5 - Ammiano, Leno, Newsom, Sandoval, Yee

File No. 010702

I hereby certify that the foregoing Resolution was ADOPTED on April 23, 2001 by the Board of Supervisors of the City and County of San Francisco.

Jean Lum
Acting Clerk of the Board

MAY 04 2001

Date Approved

Mayor Willie L. Brown Jr.