

103^D CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. J. RES. 141

Declaring October as Filipino American History Month.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 9, 1993

Mr. McDERMOTT introduced the following joint resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Post Office and Civil Service

JOINT RESOLUTION

Declaring October as Filipino American History Month.

Whereas the Filipino American National Historical Society had declared the Year 1988 to be the 225th Anniversary of the Permanent Settlement of Filipinos in the continental United States and had set into motion its year-long, national observance in order to focus on the story of our Nation's past from a new perspective by concentrating on the critically economic, cultural, social, and other notable contributions Filipino Americans had made in countless ways toward the development of United States history;

Whereas efforts must continue to promote the study of Filipino American history and culture, so mandated in the mission statement of the Filipino American National His-

torical Society, because the role of Filipino Americans and those of other people of color have been overlooked in the writings, teachings, and learnings of United States history;

Whereas it is imperative for Filipino American youths to have positive role models and to install in them the importance of education, complemented with the richness of their ethnicity and the values of their legacy; and

Whereas the earliest documented proof of Filipino presence in the continental United States falls on October 1587, more recently published by Lorraine Jacobs Crouchett in her book “Filipinos in California” (1982), annotating John Walton Caughey in his book “California” (1953), and that definitive dates of written landings on the shores of California have been recorded with the earliest on October 18, 1587, according to Crouchett, annotating H.R. Wagner’s “Unamuno’s Voyage to California in 1587” in the Quarterly of the California Historical Society (July 1923), among others: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives*
 2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
 3 That the month of October of each year shall be declared
 4 Filipino American History Month to mark the 405th anni-
 5 versary of the presence of Filipinos in the continental
 6 United States and to serve as a significant time to study
 7 the advancement of Filipino Americans in the history of
 8 the United States, as a favorable time of celebration, re-
 9 membrance, reflection, and motivation and as a relevant
 10 time to renew more efforts toward research, examination,

- 1 and promulgation of Filipino American history and culture
- 2 in order to provide an opportunity for all Americans to
- 3 learn and appreciate more about Filipino Americans and
- 4 their historic contributions to our Nation.

