

value of giving back to the community, and in turn, has passed this lesson on to his four children. Through the Monfort Family Foundation and individual contributions totaling over \$33 million have been donated to a wide variety of organizations in the Monfort name.

Today Greeley, Colorado is a much better place for having had Kenny Monfort as a native son. One merely has to look around at the many landmarks bearing the Monfort name to see the impact his generosity has had. To the north one can see the Monfort Children's Clinic treating the children of low-income parents. To the west is Monfort Elementary where every student is taught to be a steward of the community. To the east is the Monfort School of Business at the University of Northern Colorado educating the future business leaders of tomorrow. To the south, new-born babies are brought into the world in the safety of the Monfort Birthing Center.

Despite his tremendous success in all he did, Mr. Monfort will always be remembered as a modest, humble man whose legacy serves as a role model to those who knew him and whose lives he touched. I ask the House to join me in commemorating the remarkable Mr. Kenneth W. Monfort of Colorado.

LEGISLATION TO PROVIDE VETERANS BENEFITS TO MEMBERS OF THE PHILIPPINE COMMONWEALTH ARMY AND THE MEMBERS OF THE SPECIAL PHILIPPINE SCOUTS, H.R. 491

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce H.R. 491, the Filipino Veterans Equity Act of 2001. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this worthy legislation.

On July 26, 1941, President Roosevelt issued a military order, pursuant to the Philippines Independence Act of 1934, calling members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army into the service of the United States Forces of the Far East, under the command of Lt. Gen. Douglas MacArthur.

For almost 4 years, over 100,000 Filipinos, of the Philippine Commonwealth Army fought alongside the allies to reclaim the Philippine Islands from Japan. Regrettably, in return, Congress enacted the Rescission Act of 1946. That measure limited veterans eligibility for service-connected disabilities and death compensation and also denied the members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army the honor of being recognized as veterans of the United States Armed Forces.

A second group, the Special Philippine Scouts called "New Scouts" who enlisted the United States armed forces after October 6, 1945, primarily to perform occupation duty in the Pacific, were similarly excluded from benefits.

It is long past due to correct this injustice and to provide the members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army and the Special Philippine Scouts with the benefits and the services that they valiantly earned during their service in World War II.

There are some who may object to this legislation on the grounds of its cost. In years past, when we were running chronic deficits, this may have been a valid argument. That past validity however, has been dispelled by today's record surpluses.

While progress has been made towards restoring these long overdue benefits to those brave veterans who earned them, much remains to be done. I would remind my colleagues that time is not on the side of these veterans. Each year, thousands of these veterans pass away. We have a moral obligation to correct this problem before the last of these dedicated soldiers passes from this life.

These Philippine veterans have waited more than 50 years for the benefits which, by virtue of their military service, they were entitled to back in 1946.

Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to carefully review this legislation that corrects this grave injustice and provides veterans benefits to members of the Philippine Commonwealth Army and to the members of the Special Philippine Scouts.

I request that the full text of the bill be included at this point in the RECORD:

H.R. 491

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

**SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

This Act may be cited as the "Filipino Veterans Equity Act of 2001".

**SEC. 2 CERTAIN SERVICE IN THE ORGANIZED MILITARY FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE PHILIPPINE SCOUTS DEEMED TO BE ACTIVE SERVICE.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 107 of title 38, United States Code, is amended—

(1) in subsection (a)—  
(A) by striking out "not" after "Army of the United States, shall"; and

(B) by striking out "except benefits under—" and all that follows in that subsection and inserting in lieu thereof a period;

(2) in subsection (b)—  
(A) by striking out "not" after "Armed Forces Voluntary Recruitment Act of 1945 shall"; and

(B) by striking out "except—" and all that follows in that subsection and inserting in lieu thereof a period; and

(3) by striking out the subsection (c) inserted by section 501 of H.R. 5482 of the 106th Congress, as introduced on October 18, 2000, and enacted into law by Public Law 106-377, and the subsection (c) inserted by section 332(a)(2) of the Veterans Benefits and Health Care Improvement Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-419).

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(1) The heading of such section is amended to read as follows:

**"§ 107. Certain service deemed to be active service: service in organized military forces of the Philippines and in the Philippine Scouts".**

(2) The item relating to such section in the table of sections at the beginning of chapter 1 of such title is amended to read as follows: "107. Certain service deemed to be active service: service in organized military forces of the Philippines and in the Philippine Scouts.".

**SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—The amendments made by this Act shall take effect on January 1, 2002.

(b) APPLICABILITY.—No benefits shall accrue to any person for any period before the effective date of this Act by reason of the amendments made by this Act.

INTRODUCTION OF HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION REGARDING QUALITY OF CARE IN ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES

**HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2001

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, today I rise with Mr. WAXMAN, Mr. COYNE, Mr. FROST, Mr. LANTOS, Mr. MILLER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, and Mr. STRICKLAND to re-introduce a joint resolution calling for a White House conference to discuss and develop national quality of care recommendations for assisted living facilities (ALFs). Between 800,000 and 1.5 million American seniors currently reside in ALFs and these numbers may double in the next 20 years. Until recently, the industry has been almost entirely private-pay. But times are changing and ALFs increasingly seek and receive federal funding through Medicaid's Home and Community-Based Services waiver. In fact, overall spending for this waiver swelled 29% between 1988-1999, due in part to growing numbers of ALF placements.

In many states, industry expansion has not been accompanied by a tightening of quality standards or accountability measures. Instead, the definition and philosophy across ALFs varies from state to state and their is little consistency in state regulatory efforts. Furthermore, a 1999 General Accounting Office report found that 25% of surveyed facilities were cited for five or more quality of care violations between 1996-1997 and 11% were cited for 10 or more problems. Frequently cited problems ranged from providing inadequate care, particularly around medication issues, to having insufficient and unqualified staff.

I'd like to call attention to an article entitled, "Assisted Living' firm prospers by housing a frail population," published on January 15th in the Wall Street Journal. This article discusses industry trends and carefully details the business practices and policies of Sunrise Assisted Living, Inc., one of the country's most successful ALF companies. At a time when many of its competitors are posting large operating losses, Sunrise earns millions of dollars in profits each year. How do they do it?—by accepting elderly applicants with serious health conditions and collecting extra-care fees, sometimes as high as \$1640/month (on top of regular monthly fees) for very sick or cognitively impaired residents. Paul Klassen, Sunrise's chief executive, makes no bones about this marketing strategy. At a recent orientation for new Sunrise managers, he urged that "the frailest of the frail" be considered as candidates for assisted living.

Although originally developed as an alternative to nursing homes, this article makes abundantly clear that ALFs are now recruiting the same frail seniors that might otherwise be served by nursing homes. Yet the average Sunrise facility (housing 90 residents) maintains only one registered nurse on duty for 8-