



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

October 25, 2005

Motion 12214

Proposed No. 2005-0417.2

Sponsors Gossett, Patterson, Pelz, Phillips
and Hague

1 A MOTION in support of the Filipino Veterans Equity Act,
2 and advocating for family members of World War II
3 Filipino American veterans as citizens of the United States
4 of America.

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8 WHEREAS, in 1941, President Franklin D. Roosevelt drafted over two
9 hundred thousand members of the Philippines Commonwealth Army and the
10 Special Philippines Scouts into American Military Service to fight in the Pacific
11 as part of the United States Armed Forces of the Far East, and

12 WHEREAS, bravely fighting alongside American allies and suffering
13 through horrific experiences such as the Bataan Death March, many of the
14 Filipino soldiers sacrificed their lives, and those that survived were promised by
15 the United States government that they would be considered United States
16 veterans with active service, entitling them to the full benefits of United States
17 war veterans, and

18 WHEREAS, the United States Congress passed the Rescission Act of
19 1946, which specifically mandated that services rendered by the Philippines
20 Commonwealth Army "shall not be deemed active military, naval or air service
21 for the purposes of any law of the U.S.," thereby stripping these soldiers of equal
22 recognition, compensation and benefits, and

23 WHEREAS, securing equal and full benefits for Filipino World War II
24 Veterans has been a long and challenging battle, but families, community
25 members and elected officials continue to champion their cause and work for
26 passage of the Filipino Veterans Equity Bill, and

27 WHEREAS, the United States government granted citizenship to these
28 veterans in 1990, but it is the Filipino Veterans Equity Bill that would recognize
29 their valiant military service through full recognition and full benefits, and with
30 many Filipino World War II veterans now in their eighties and nineties, their
31 contributions should no longer be diminished, and

32 WHEREAS, legislation has been introduced in the United States House of
33 Representatives and in the United States Senate to restore equal recognition and
34 benefits for Filipino veterans who fought for the United States during World War
35 II;

36 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

37 The King County council urges members of the United States House of
38 Representatives and the United States Senate to support the Filipino Veterans
39 Equity Bill.

40 The King County council urges the President of the United States to issue an
41 Executive Order that grants family members of World War II Filipino American Veterans
42 status as citizens of the United States of America.

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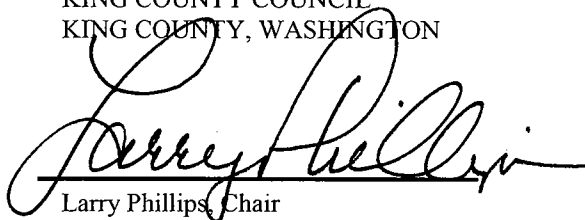
Motion 12214 was introduced on 10/17/2005 and passed by the Metropolitan King
County Council on 10/24/2005, by the following vote:

Yes: 10 - Mr. Phillips, Ms. Edmonds, Mr. von Reichbauer, Ms. Lambert, Mr.
Pelz, Mr. Dunn, Mr. Ferguson, Mr. Gossett, Ms. Patterson and Mr.
Constantine

No: 0

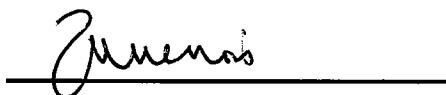
Excused: 3 - Mr. Hammond, Ms. Hague and Mr. Irons

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Larry Phillips, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Council

Attachments None