

AMENDED IN SENATE JUNE 19, 2015

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 11, 2015

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

## Assembly Concurrent Resolution

**No. 81**

### **Introduced by Assembly Members Chiu and Bonta**

**(Coauthors: Assembly Members Achadjian, Alejo, Travis Allen, Atkins, Baker, Bigelow, Bloom, Bonilla, Brough, Brown, Burke, Calderon, Campos, Chang, Chau, Chávez, Chu, Cooley, Cooper, Dababneh, Dahle, Daly, Eggman, Frazier, Beth Gaines, Gallagher, Cristina Garcia, Eduardo Garcia, Gatto, Gipson, Gomez, Gordon, Gray, Grove, Hadley, Harper, Holden, Irwin, Jones, Kim, Lackey, Levine, Linder, Lopez, Low, Maienschein, Mayes, McCarty, Medina, Mullin, Nazarian, Obernolte, O'Donnell, Olsen, Patterson, Perea, Quirk, Rendon, Rodriguez, Salas, Santiago, Steinorth, Mark Stone, Thurmond, Ting, Wagner, Waldron, Wilk, Williams, and Wood)**

*(Coauthors: Senators Allen, Bates, Beall, Berryhill, Block, Cannella, De León, Fuller, Gaines, Galgiani, Hall, Hancock, Hertzberg, Huff, Lara, Leno, Leyva, Liu, McGuire, Mendoza, Nguyen, Nielsen, Pan, Pavley, Runner, Stone, Wieckowski, and Wolk)*

May 27, 2015

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Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 81—Relative to Philippine Independence Day.

#### LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 81, as amended, Chiu. Philippine Independence Day.

This measure would recognize June 12, 2015, as the 117th Anniversary of Philippine Independence and would call upon the people

of the state to observe the month of June with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, On June 12, 2015, the Filipino American  
2 community will celebrate the 117th Anniversary of Philippine  
3 ~~Independence~~, *Independence* and on this occasion it is appropriate  
4 to make special recognition of California's Filipino American  
5 citizens and thank them for their countless contributions to our  
6 nation's cultural, economic, and political heritage; and

7 WHEREAS, The Philippine Declaration of Independence took  
8 place on June 12, 1898, in the town of Cavite El Viejo, now known  
9 as Kawit, located in the Philippine province of Cavite, when  
10 Filipino revolutionary forces, under the leadership of General  
11 Emilio Aguinaldo, publicly read the Act of Declaration of  
12 Independence proclaiming the sovereignty and independence of  
13 the Philippine Islands from the colonial rule of Spain, after  
14 American and Filipino revolutionary forces defeated Spain at the  
15 Battle of Manila Bay during the Spanish-American War; and

16 WHEREAS, The declaration was not recognized by the United  
17 States or Spain. Spain later ceded the Philippines to the United  
18 States in the 1898 Treaty of Paris that ended the Spanish-American  
19 War. The United States government did not recognize Philippine  
20 independence until the signing of the Treaty of Manila on July 4,  
21 1946; and

22 WHEREAS, For nearly two decades, July 4 was observed in  
23 the Philippines as Independence Day until President Diosdado  
24 Macapagal, upon the advice of historians and the urging of  
25 nationalists, signed the Republic Act No. 4166 into law on August  
26 4, 1964, designating the country's Independence Day as June 12.  
27 June 12 was previously observed as Flag Day and on that day many  
28 government buildings were urged to display the Philippine flag in  
29 their offices; and

30 WHEREAS, As the years went on, Filipino Americans became  
31 very involved in the community and made numerous contributions  
32 in all aspects of American society and culture, especially in  
33 California; and

34 WHEREAS, Many people of Filipino descent have contributed  
35 to great movements that have helped to shape our country and its  
36 role in the world, including the late Larry Dulay Itliong, labor

1 organizer and the first vice president of the United Farm Workers  
2 Union, the late Philip Vera Cruz, cofounder of the United Farm  
3 Workers Union, and the late Carlos Bulosan, one of the first  
4 Filipino-American novelists to gain fame for his work; and

5 WHEREAS, Many Filipino Americans have served with  
6 distinction as outstanding soldiers who fought as members of the  
7 United States Armed Forces for over a century and have sacrificed  
8 their lives in many wars, including World War II; and

9 WHEREAS, Today there are more than 3.5 million people of  
10 Filipino American descent, many of whom have played vital roles  
11 in the development of the United States and have paved the way  
12 for Filipino Americans to continue to strengthen their roles in the  
13 broader society and to contribute to American and California  
14 politics, economy, and culture; now, therefore, be it

15 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*  
16 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature, in honor of the multitude  
17 of contributions that Filipino Americans have made to make this  
18 a better country and state for all people, recognizes June 12, 2015,  
19 as the 117th Anniversary of Philippine Independence and calls  
20 upon the people of the state to observe the month of June with  
21 appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities; and be it further

22 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies  
23 of this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.