

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY JUNE 9, 2016

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2015–16 REGULAR SESSION

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 170

Introduced by Assembly Member Bonta

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

April 14, 2016

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 170—Relative to Philippine Independence Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 170, as amended, Bonta. Philippine Independence Day.

This measure would recognize June 12, 2016, as the 118th 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, 2016, the Filipino American
2 community will celebrate the 118th Anniversary of Philippine

1 Independence, and on this occasion it is appropriate to make special
2 recognition of California's Filipino American citizens and thank
3 them for their countless contributions to our nation's cultural,
4 economic, and political heritage; and

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

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

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

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

32 WHEREAS, Many people of Filipino descent have contributed
33 to great movements that have helped to shape our country and its
34 role in the world, including the late Larry Dulay Itliong, labor
35 organizer and the first vice president of the United Farm Workers
36 union, the late Philip Vera Cruz, cofounder of the United Farm
37 Workers union, and the late Carlos Bulosan, one of the first
38 Filipino-American novelists to gain fame for his work; and

39 WHEREAS, Many Filipino Americans have served with
40 distinction as outstanding soldiers who fought as members of the

1 Armed Forces for over a century and have sacrificed their lives in
2 many wars, including World War II; and

3 WHEREAS, Today there are more than 3.5 million people of
4 Filipino American descent, many of whom have played vital roles
5 in the development of the United States and have paved the way
6 for Filipino Americans to continue to strengthen their roles in the
7 broader society and to contribute to American and California
8 politics, economy, and culture; now, therefore, be it

9 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
10 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature, in honor of the multitude
11 of contributions that Filipino Americans have made to make this
12 a better country and state for all people, hereby recognizes June
13 12, 2016, as the 118th Anniversary of Philippine Independence
14 and calls upon the people of the state to observe the month of June
15 with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities; and be it
16 further

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