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**Introduced by Senator Huff**  
**(Coauthor: Senator Nguyen)**  
(Coauthors: Assembly Members Chang and Kim)

June 9, 2015

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Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 74—Relative to Philippine Independence Day.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SCR 74, as introduced, Huff. Philippine Independence Day.

This measure would recognize June 12, 2015, as the 117th Anniversary of Philippine Independence, and would encourage Californians 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, and on this occasion it is appropriate to make special  
4 recognition of California's Filipino American citizens and thank  
5 them for their countless contributions to our nation's cultural,  
6 economic, and political heritage; and  
7 WHEREAS, The Philippine Declaration of Independence  
8 occurred when Filipino revolutionary forces, under the leadership  
9 of General Emilio Aguinaldo, publicly read the Act of Declaration  
10 of Independence proclaiming the sovereignty and independence  
11 of the Philippine Islands from the colonial rule of Spain, after  
12 United States and Filipino revolutionary forces defeated Spain at  
13 the Battle of Manila Bay during the Spanish-American War; and

1 WHEREAS, For nearly two decades, July 4th was observed in  
2 the Philippines as Independence Day until President Diosdado  
3 Macapagal, upon the advice of historians and the urging of  
4 nationalists, signed the Republic Act No. 4166 into law on August  
5 4, 1964, designating the country's Independence Day as June 12th,  
6 a date that had previously been observed as Flag Day when many  
7 government buildings displayed the Philippine flag in their offices;  
8 and

9 WHEREAS, As the years went on, Filipino Americans became  
10 very involved in the community and made numerous contributions  
11 in all aspects of Filipino and American society and culture,  
12 especially in California; and

13 WHEREAS, Filipino Americans have also played a major role  
14 in California politics. In November 2014, 23 Filipino Americans  
15 were elected to state or local offices, adding to the long list of  
16 Filipino Americans who are currently serving in their elective or  
17 appointive capacities and who have shaped the development of  
18 California over the years; and

19 WHEREAS, Many Filipino Americans have served with  
20 distinction as outstanding soldiers who fought as members of the  
21 United States Armed Forces for over a century and have sacrificed  
22 their lives in many wars, including World War II, the Vietnam  
23 War, and current conflicts in the Middle East and Afghanistan;  
24 and

25 WHEREAS, Today there are more than 3.4 million people of  
26 Filipino American descent, many of whom have played vital roles  
27 in the development of the United States and California and have  
28 paved the way for many other Filipino Americans to continue to  
29 strengthen the role of Filipino Americans in society and contribute  
30 to American and California politics, economy, and culture; now,  
31 therefore, be it

32 *Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly*  
33 *thereof concurring*, That the Legislature, in honor of the multitude  
34 of contributions that Filipino Americans have made to the United  
35 States and California, recognizes June 12, 2015, as the 117th  
36 Anniversary of Philippine Independence and encourages  
37 Californians to observe the month of June with appropriate  
38 ceremonies, programs, and activities; and be it further

- 1     *Resolved*, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of
- 2     this resolution to the author for appropriate distribution.

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