

Legislation Text

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Recognizing October 2019 as Filipino American History Month in the City of Philadelphia.

WHEREAS, In 2009, the United States Congress recognized October 2011 and every October thereafter as Filipino American History Month to celebrate the history and culture of Filipino Americans and their historic contributions to the Nation; and

WHEREAS, In 1587, the first Filipinos set foot on what would be American soil at Morro Bay, California, as sailors on a Manila-built Spanish galleon as part of an exploratory mission; and

WHEREAS, In 1763, the first permanent Filipino American settlement was founded in St. Malo, Louisiana, by Filipino sailors who had served on Spanish galleons, becoming known as “Manilamen” and pioneering shrimp harvesting techniques; and

WHEREAS, Filipino Americans have long been an integral and important part of the life and leadership of the City of Philadelphia through art and culture, politics and policy, science and technology, business and commerce, sports, medicine, religion, education, charitable works, and service and sacrifice alongside other Philadelphians in the Armed Services of the United States; and

WHEREAS, The Filipino American Community has made valuable contributions to the rich, diverse tapestry of Philadelphia; and

WHEREAS, The Filipino American communities across the country make up the third largest Asian American ethnic group with over four million people. Together with them, our City recognizes and celebrates their leadership, service, and contributions to the Filipino American Community and the City of Philadelphia; and

WHEREAS, Regardless of our ethnic origins, we Philadelphians all take pride in our City’s Filipino heritage and history; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, THAT THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PHILADELPHIA, Hereby recognizes October 2019 as Filipino American History Month in the City of Philadelphia.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That an Engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to the National Federation of Filipino American Associations Pennsylvania, as evidence of the respect and admiration of this legislative body.