Legislation Text

File #: 220478, **Version:** 0

Recognizing and celebrating the 2022 Philippine Independence Week Celebration from June 4th to June 18th.

WHEREAS, This year will mark the 124th Anniversary of the Philippine Declaration of Independence from Spain on June 12, 1898, establishing the first constitutional democracy in Asia. This came on the heels of a successful revolution against oppressive Spanish rule which was capped by an American victory in the Battle of Manila Bay of May 1898 and the Treaty of Paris in December of the same year, which transferred control of the Philippines from Spanish to American control; and

WHEREAS, The United States and Philippines fought together in the Pacific during World War II to defend democratic principles. In 1946, the Republic of the Philippines was granted full independence by the United States, and the two nations have remained friends and allies ever since; and

WHEREAS, Today, Filipino Americans account for the second-largest population of Asian Americans in the country; and

WHEREAS, About 4 million Filipino Americans continue to maintain their rich heritage by celebrating their culture and traditions, enhancing both the quality of their lives and the lives of all Americans, including over 30,000 Filipino Americans in the greater Philadelphia region; and

WHEREAS, Filipino Americans in the greater Philadelphia area supplement the City's strong cultural diversity and contribute to the local economy in a wide range of professional fields including education, medicine, and engineering; and

WHEREAS, This year's celebrations of the 124th Anniversary of Philippine Independence will be hosted by the Filipino Executive Council of Greater Philadelphia. Events will include a flag raising and proclamations on board the USS Olympia at Penn's Landing on June 4th at 10:30 a.m. and a Philippine Flag Raising Ceremony at Philadelphia City Hall on June 10th at noon. All Philadelphians are welcome and encouraged to join their Filipino American friends and neighbors in celebrating the heritage and independence of the Philippines; and

WHEREAS, The Filipino Executive Council of Greater Philadelphia has made significant contributions to the local community and also in the Philippines. Its members are active in political events and coalitions in local, state, and federal government; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY PHILADELPHIA, That it hereby recognizes and celebrates the 2022 Philippine Independence Week Celebration from June 4th to June 18th.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That an Engrossed copy of this resolution be presented to Roman Ventura, President of the Filipino Executive Council of Greater Philadelphia, further evidencing the sincere admiration and respect of this legislative body.