



PHILIPPINE CONSULATE GENERAL

**P R E S S R E L E A S E**

PR-CBR- 32 -2007

12 December 2007

**PETITION FOR THE PASSAGE BY THE US CONGRESS OF THE  
FILIPINO VETERANS EQUITY ACT OF 2007**

New York – The Philippine Consulate General New York appeals to the Filipino American community in the Northeast to sign the online petition rallying the US Congress and Senate to support the Filipino Veterans Equity Bill of 2007.

The Filipino Veterans Equity Act of 2007 is intended to give recognition to Filipino veterans who fought shoulder to shoulder with their American brothers in arms in the cause of freedom in World War II. In 1946 at the end of hostilities, the Filipino veterans who were promised benefits and assistance in exchange for their service and sacrifice to the colonial government were stripped of their dignity with the passage of the Rescission Act. Since then, the veterans have fought to have these benefits restored. Of the 260,143 who survived the battlefields and privations of captivity, only about 18,155 continue to endure.

Recently, the Veterans Affairs Committees of both houses of Congress approved the Filipino Veterans Equity Act of 2007 (HR 760 and S 1315 amending S 57). This is the closest our Filipino veterans have gotten to having their honor fully reinstated. The way forward now is to get the bills scheduled for consideration in the Congress and the Senate floors and generate a minimum of 220 votes and 51 votes respectively.

Our veterans fought bravely, served wholeheartedly, and have waited sixty-one years to be heard. The Philippine Consulate General strongly encourages you to enjoin your family and friends to lend their support to this campaign, while our heroes are still among us. Log on and sign the petition at:

[http://www.petitiononline.com/mod\\_perl/signed.cgi?EquiAct&1](http://www.petitiononline.com/mod_perl/signed.cgi?EquiAct&1)

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