

A CEREMONIAL RESOLUTION

23-138

COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

September 17, 2019

To recognize October as Filipino American History Month in the District of Columbia.

WHEREAS, there are over 4,000,000 Filipino Americans, making them the second largest Asian American group in the United States;

WHEREAS, the District of Columbia is home to over 3,000 Filipino American residents;

WHEREAS, Dr. Fred Cordova and his wife Dr. Dorothy Laigo Cordova, founder of the Filipino American National Historical Society (FANHS), first introduced October as Filipino American History Month in 1992 with a resolution from the FANHS National Board of Trustees;

WHEREAS, the celebration of Filipino American History Month in October commemorates the first recorded presence of Filipinos in the continental United States, which occurred on October 18, 1587, when “Luzones Indios” came ashore from the Spanish galleon Nuestra Senora de Esperanza and landed at what is now Morro Bay, California;

WHEREAS, in 2009, the United States Congress recognized October as Filipino American History Month in the United States;

WHEREAS, since 2009 multiple states and municipalities have declared October to be Filipino American History Month;

WHEREAS, Filipino Americans have contributed greatly to the social, economic, and political development of the District throughout its history;

WHEREAS, countless Filipino American residents serve the District of Columbia in the areas of public service, education, business, technology, healthcare, family services, the arts, and culture; and

WHEREAS, October has become a symbolic month in which Filipino Americans and their supporters come together in celebration of their culture, traditions and history.

ENROLLED ORIGINAL

RESOLVED, BY THE COUNCIL OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, That this resolution may be cited as the “Filipino American History Month Recognition Resolution of 2019”.

Sec. 2. The Council recognizes the outstanding contributions and valued accomplishments of the Filipino American community in the District of Columbia and the United States of America and are proud to declare October as Filipino American History Month in the District of Columbia.

Sec. 3. This resolution shall take effect immediately upon the first date of publication in the District of Columbia Register.