



FILIPINO AMERICAN SERVICE GROUP, INC. (FASGI)

IT'S TIME! Recognizing and honoring Filipino WWII Veterans

Dear Representative,

As one of your proud Filipino American constituents, I am writing to solicit your support for S.1315 or the Veterans' Benefits Enhancement Act, which was approved on April 24 by the U.S. Senate by a near unanimous vote. The bill may be brought to the House floor for a vote before Congress ends its session in September.

After over sixty years, this bill would finally provide due recognition and benefits for the surviving Filipino veterans who helped win the war for the Allied Forces in World War II. The Veteran's Equity Bill should not be looked at as a piece of legislation pitting U.S. veterans against Philippine veterans, but as restitution for the long neglect by the U.S. government. Recognition is long overdue recognition for the invaluable services of Filipino World War II veterans.

We know that some are opposing this bill because they claim that it would benefit a class of veterans whom they label as non-U.S. veterans. But actually, these veterans are America's veterans, for they were U.S. nationals serving under the American flag at a time when the Philippines was still a U.S. territory, following a military order from President Franklin Roosevelt. They have served the U.S. with complete loyalty and devotion.

There is not much time left. Out of the 260,000 soldiers listed by the U.S. Army after the war, only 18,000 are alive today. They would not be a long-term fiscal burden to the United States. It's really time for America to honor them before it's too late.

During a year when we will be holding general elections, it would be appropriate for the U.S. Congress to finally recognize and honor men who helped pave the way for the freedoms we Americans enjoy today.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Name: _____

Address: _____

Signature: _____

Email: _____