

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2015-4631, by Representative Chandler

1 WHEREAS, The State of Washington has recognized the proud history
2 of Filipino-Americans since 2010; and

3 WHEREAS, The earliest documented proof of Filipino presence in
4 the continental United States was the date of October 18, 1587, when
5 the first "Luzones Indios" set foot in Morro Bay, California; and

6 WHEREAS, The Filipino-American National Historical Society
7 recognizes the year of 1763 as the date of the first permanent
8 Filipino settlement in the United States in St. Malo Parrish,
9 Louisiana; and

10 WHEREAS, Washington State contributed to this history with the
11 recognition of the 1888 documents of Port Blakely on Bainbridge
12 Island, Washington, at the time the largest lumber mill in the world,
13 as listing a "Manilla," the first known employee from the Philippines
14 in the Pacific Northwest; and

15 WHEREAS, These events set in motion a focus on the story of our
16 nation's past from a new perspective by concentrating on the
17 economic, cultural, social, and other notable contributions that
18 Filipino-Americans have made in countless ways toward the development
19 of the United States; and

20 WHEREAS, Efforts must continue to promote the study of Filipino-
21 American history and culture, as mandated in the mission statement of
22 the Filipino-American National Historical Society; and

23 WHEREAS, It is imperative for Filipino-American youth to have
24 positive role models to instill in them the importance of education,
25 complemented with the richness of their ethnicity and the value of
26 their legacy; and

27 WHEREAS, Washingtonians who have made a national contribution to
28 American culture and society include Filipino-Americans Carlos
29 Bulosan, Roy Baldoz, Jose Calugas, Fred and Dorothy Cordova, Pio
30 DeCano Sr., Trinidad Rojo, Bob Santos, Delores Sibonga, Silvestre
31 Tangalan, Bernie Reyes Whitebear, Velma Veloria, Harry Bucset, and
32 others; and

33 WHEREAS, Filipinos are one of the largest Asian/Pacific Islander
34 communities in Washington State; and

1 WHEREAS, Washington State is the location of historic Filipino-
2 American communities, including Wapato, Seattle, Bainbridge Island,
3 Tacoma, Auburn, Bremerton, Pateros, and others; and

4 WHEREAS, Filipinos have served with special distinction in all of
5 the United States military branches; and

6 WHEREAS, The United States and the Republic of the Philippines
7 continue to hold a special bond; and

8 WHEREAS, The national office of the Filipino-American National
9 Historical Society is located in the city of Seattle, Washington;

10 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives
11 recognize October 2015 as the 428th anniversary of the presence of
12 Filipinos in the United States and as a significant time to study the
13 advancement of Filipino-Americans in the history of the State of
14 Washington; and

15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be
16 immediately transmitted by the Chief Clerk of the House of
17 Representatives to Rey Pascua, President of the Filipino-American
18 Community of the Yakima Valley, for further distribution to the
19 Filipino-American National Historical Society, to Asian and Pacific
20 Islander organizations, to other historical societies and government
21 entities, and to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.

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23 I hereby certify this to be a true and correct copy of
24 Resolution 4631 adopted by the House of Representatives
25 April 2, 2015
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Barbara Baker, Chief Clerk