



September 12, 2012

The Honorable Dean Heller
United States Senate
361 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Senator Heller:

On behalf of the Filipino-American Veterans & Families of the America-NV Chapter, I am pleased to endorse the Filipino Veterans Fairness Act.

Nevada is currently the home of America's oldest World War II Filipino denied veteran at 100 years old. He is joined by four others who have been fighting to be recognized for service. These individuals fought with honor alongside U.S. troops during World War II, however, their efforts are not fully recognized because their name is not documented on the Missouri List, and in any Army service file which must be verified through the National Personnel Records Centers historical files and are the only accepted records used and excludes any proof of service that comes from the Philippine government. Currently this is the only accepted process utilized by the Department of Veterans Affairs to verify veteran eligibility.

Previous attempts to rectify this situation in Congress have been met with a stalemate with no resolution in sight for these veterans. That is why, I am pleased with Senator Heller's leadership in introducing legislation that provides Filipino veterans with a forum that challenges the current process and exclusion from the reconstructed Missouri Lists which many are not on and have other historical evidence they served.

Senator Heller's commitment to keeping a promise to those who served is commendable and it is my honor to endorse the Filipino Veterans Fairness Act.

Thank you for your continued service to the Filipino Veterans and the Filipino community.

Sincerely,

Cesar I. Elpidio
LCDR, Medical Service Corps, USNR (Ret)
Founder and President FAVFA-NV

