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| |  |  | | --- | --- | | **For Immediate Release:** | **Contact:** [Neal A. Patel](mailto:neal_patel@heller.senate.gov) | | November 30, 2016 | 202-224-6244 |   **House Passes Heller Legislation Awarding Congressional Gold Medal to WWII Filipino Veterans**    **(Washington, DC)** – United States Senator Dean Heller (R-NV) issued the following statement after the U.S. House of Representatives passed key legislation, the Filipino Veterans of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act of 2015 (S. 1555), which awards the Congressional Gold Medal to Filipino Veterans of World War II:  “The day has finally arrived for this group of heroes to receive the recognition they deserve for their sacrifice and service to our nation during World War II. With Nevada being home to ‘The Mighty Five’ Filipino veterans – I am proud to see these brave individuals finally rewarded for their military service. With both House and Senate passage, I look forward to seeing this legislation swiftly signed into law by the President,” said **Senator Dean Heller.**  **Background:**  This effort is part of a movement to obtain national recognition for Filipino and Filipino-American World War II soldiers across the United States and Philippines for their instrumental wartime service to the United States and strategic role in the Allied victory over the Empire of Japan.  The legislation acknowledges over 260,000 Filipino and Filipino-American soldiers who responded to President Roosevelt’s call-to-duty and fought under the American flag against the Imperial Forces of Japan during World War II.  Heller teamed with Senator Mazie Hirono (D-HI) for bipartisan [Senate passage](http://www.heller.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/pressreleases?ID=A91FE04A-1A96-465C-874A-B4AA394D19F1) of this legislation in July.  ###  [cid:image005.png@01D15EA3.CEBDCB00](http://www.facebook.com/pages/US-Senator-Dean-Heller/325751330177)[cid:image006.png@01D15EA3.CEBDCB00](http://twitter.com/SenDeanHeller)[cid:image007.png@01D15EA3.CEBDCB00](http://www.youtube.com/user/SenDeanHeller) |