

Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County, California

IN THE MATTER OF PROCLAIMING OCTOBER 2016 AS "FILIPINO AMERICAN HISTORY MONTH"

RESOLUTION NO. 2016/572

WHEREAS, the earliest documented Filipino presence in the continental United States was October 18, 1587, when the first "Luzones Indios" arrived in Morro Bay, California, on board the Nuestra Senora de Esperanza, a Manila-built galleon ship; and

WHEREAS, the Filipino American National Historical Society recognizes 1763 as the year in which the first permanent Filipino settlement in the United States was established in St. Malo, Louisiana; and

WHEREAS, with a population of approximately 3,416,840 individuals, the Filipino American community is the second largest Asian American and Pacific Islander group in the United States; and

WHEREAS, from the War of 1812 to the Iraq and Afghanistan conflicts, Filipino American servicemen and servicewomen have a longstanding history of serving in the Armed Forces, including the 250,000 Filipinos who fought under the United States flag during World War II to protect and defend the United States in the Pacific theater; and

WHEREAS, the legendary 1st & 2nd Filipino Regiments trained in and was shipped out to the Pacific Theater of WW II from Camp Stoneman in Pittsburg and distinguished themselves in numerous island battles including the Liberation of the Philippines, led by Gen. Douglas MacArthur; and

WHEREAS, about 100 survivors of the Battles of Bataan and Corrigidor and the infamous Bataan Death March chose to relocate their families to Pittsburg, California in which they contributed to the rich cultural diversity of that city; and

WHEREAS, Filipino American farmworkers and labor leaders such as Philip Vera Cruz and Larry Itliong played an integral role in the multiethnic United Farm Workers movement alongside Cesar Chavez, Dolores Huerta, and other Latino workers and played a vital role in the development of the agricultural industry in Contra Costa County; and

WHEREAS, Filipino Americans play an integral role in the United States healthcare system and the Contra Costa Medical Center as nurses, doctors, and other medical professionals; and

WHEREAS, Filipino Americans have contributed greatly to the arts, athletic, economic, educational, scientific and political fields that enrich the landscape of the United States; and

WHEREAS, in 2016, Gov. Jerry Brown mandated that ethnic studies, including the role of Filipinos during WWII, labor and their numerous' contributions to the United States be part of California's public school curricula; and

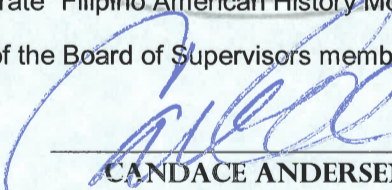
WHEREAS, on Oct. 1, 2016, President Barack Obama proclaimed October as Filipino American History Month in the United States.

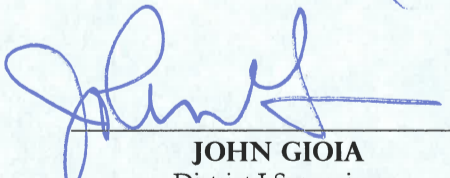
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of Contra Costa County does hereby proclaim October, 2016 as

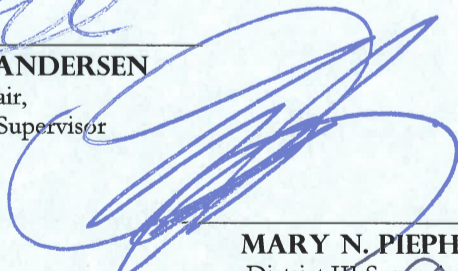
Filipino American History Month,

does encourage the study and appreciation of the social, cultural, educational and economic contributions of Filipino Americans in the United States and specifically in Contra Costa County, and does urge the people and schools of Contra Costa County to observe and celebrate "Filipino American History Month" with appropriate programs and activities.

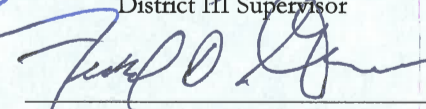
PASSED by a unanimous vote of the Board of Supervisors members present this 18th day of October, 2016.


CANDACE ANDERSEN
Chair,
District II Supervisor


JOHN GIOIA
District I Supervisor


MARY N. PIEPHO
District III Supervisor


KAREN MITCHOFF
District IV Supervisor


FEDERAL D. GLOVER
District V Supervisor



I hereby certify that this is a true and correct copy of an action taken and entered on the minutes of the Board of Supervisors on the date shown:

ATTESTED: October 18, 2016

DAVID TWA, Clerk of the Board of Supervisors and County Administrator

By Stephanie Mallo, Deputy