OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

SENATE P.S. Res. 152 teptor vers . A.

Introduced by Senator Villar

RESOLUTION

URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY AND SOCIAL JUSTICE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE PLIGHT OF FILIPINO VETERANS WITH THE END-IN-VIEW OF CHARTING IMMEDIATE POLICY MEASURES AND/OR REPORT SUBSTANTIAL RECOMMENDATIONS THAT WILL PROMOTE AND ENHANCE THEIR WELFARE

Whereas, the 1987 Philippine Constitution recognizes the important roles played by Filipino veterans as declared, "[t]he State shall provide immediate and adequate care, benefits, and other forms of assistance to war veterans and veterans of military campaigns, their surviving spouses and orphans. x x x" (Article XVI, Section 7);

Whereas, it has been documented that a substantial number of Filipino veterans applied for automatic American citizenship as a result of the enactment of the Immigration and Naturalization Act of 1990;

Whereas, the hard life and poverty of Filipino veterans, who are mostly disabled and unable to work, have been reported;

Whereas, at present, Republic Act No. 6948 governs the granting of benefits for military veterans and their dependents and which statute includes the standardization of claims and its regular assessment;

Whereas, the Filipino veterans are mostly sickly and in fact at the twilight of their lives and their P 500 token allowances and pensions monthly are not enough to support even their personal needs and medicine;

Whereas, assisting the Filipino veterans is in accord with social justice, the very hallmark of our fundamental law, as can be gleaned in the highest of constitutional precepts, viz:

- 'The State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty though policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living and an improved quality of life for all' (Art. II, Sec. 9);
- "The State shall promote social justice in all phases of national development." (Art. II, Section 10)

Whereas, an immediate action must be taken by the government and all concerned sector and to help address the cause of our veterans: Now therefore be it

Resolved by the Senate of the Philippines, To urge the Senate Committees on National Defense and Security and Social Justice to conduct an inquiry, in of legislation, on the plight of the Filipino veterans with the end-in-view of charting immediate policy measures and/or report substantial recommendations that will promote and enhance their welfare.

Adopted,

MANNY VILLAR