



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

'13 JUL 29 P5:23

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: *[Signature]*

S. No. 1151

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Introduced by Sen. Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

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**Explanatory Note**

Despite the veterans receiving compensation for their service to the country, they have yet to collect their full benefits and privileges from the US government for whom they fought and served during World War II.

Thus, this bill seeks to establish and maintain an Office of Veterans in the Philippine Embassy in the United States of America to represent, negotiate and lobby for the rights of the Filipino veterans with the appropriate US offices. The office shall be maintained for five (5) years after its date of establishment or until the Filipino veterans shall receive their full benefits and privileges, the time of which shall not exceed another (5) five years.

To ensure that the Filipino veterans enjoy their twilight years with the aid of their rightfully earned benefits and privileges, the urgent approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV  
Senator




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AN ACT

**TO ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN AN OFFICE OF VETERANS AFFAIRS IN THE PHILIPPINE EMBASSY IN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, PRESCRIBING ITS FUNCTIONS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

*Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

1 **SECTION 1. Declaration of Policy.**- It is hereby declared the policy of the government to  
2 pursue the claims of Filipino veterans of World War II and work for the full restoration of their  
3 rights, privileges and benefits from the United States government.

4  
5 **SEC. 2. Establishment of an Office of Veterans Affairs.**- For the attainment of this goal,  
6 there is hereby created an Office of Veterans Affairs in the Philippine Embassy in the United  
7 States of America mandated with the task of making formal representations, consultations and  
8 negotiations or otherwise cause the conduct of sustained and effective lobbying with appropriate  
9 offices of the legislative and executive branches of the United States government and other  
10 agencies and entities which can enhance the favorable consideration of the claims of Filipino  
11 veterans. The office shall be in existence for five (5) years from the date of approval of this Act  
12 or until the Filipino veterans shall have availed of their legitimate claims, the time of which shall  
13 not exceed another five (5) years.

14  
15 **SEC. 3. Staffing.**- The Office of Veterans Affairs shall have a staff consisting of a head  
16 of office appointed by the President of the Philippines, two (2) administrative assistants assigned

1 five (5) persons who could head the Office of Veterans Affairs and one of whom shall be  
2 appointed by the President of the Philippines as a special presidential representative who shall  
3 have a comparable diplomatic rank.

4

5 **SEC. 4. Appropriations.**- The amount necessary for the initial implementation of this Act  
6 shall be charged against the current year's appropriations for the operational requirements of the  
7 Ad Hoc Veterans Affairs Office in Washington D.C. authorized under the budget of the  
8 Philippine Veterans Affairs Office. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the continued  
9 implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

10

11 **SEC. 5. Effectivity.**- This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,