

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 66

Senator MacDonald offered the following resolution:

1 A resolution to commemorate July 20, 2019, as Filipino-
2 American Friendship Day.

3 Whereas, July 2019 marks the 73rd anniversary of the Treaty of
4 Manila which granted Philippine independence from the United States
5 in 1946; and

6 Whereas, During World War II, the Empire of Japan occupied the
7 islands until a United States campaign led by General Douglas
8 MacArthur and Philippine Vice President Sergio Osmeña successfully
9 regained control of the country. Finally, in 1946, the Philippines
10 became an independent nation; and

11 Whereas, One of the earliest examples of the shared history of
12 these two nations involves Filipinos, living in New Orleans, who

1 joined the war effort against the British during the War of 1812;
2 and

3 Whereas, Since that time, Filipino-Americans have contributed
4 greatly to the United States with great accomplishments in the
5 fields of education, entrepreneurship, medicine, arts, culinary,
6 sports, government, business, and more; and

7 Whereas, According to the last census in 2010, there were 3.4
8 million Americans of Filipino descent. An estimated 1.08 percent of
9 the residents of Sterling Heights, Michigan are Filipino-Americans,
10 more than any other Michigan city; and

11 Whereas, All Americans can be proud of the historic friendship
12 between the Philippines and the United States; and

13 Whereas, It is important that we teach our children and future
14 generations important lessons learned through this long lasting
15 relationship and the benefits to be gained from cooperation with
16 all cultures; now, therefore, be it

17 Resolved by the Senate, That the members of this legislative
18 body commemorate July 20, 2019, as Filipino-American Friendship
19 Day; and be it further

20 Resolved, That we recognize this as a special time for
21 Michiganians to celebrate the valuable contributions and
22 longstanding relationship between the Philippines and the United
23 States and express our desire for continued friendship.