

108TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. CON. RES. 182

Recognizing that the United States draws its strength from its incredible diversity of racial and ethnic groups, recognizing that the Asian Pacific American community is a thriving and integral part of American society and culture, supporting the goals and ideals of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, and recognizing the contributions of Asian Pacific Americans to the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 14, 2003

Mr. WU (for himself, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. HONDA, Mr. CASE, Mr. MATSUI, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. BECERRA, Ms. BORDALLO, Mr. SANDLIN, Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA, Ms. SOLIS, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mr. SCHIFF, and Ms. LEE) submitted the following concurrent resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION

Recognizing that the United States draws its strength from its incredible diversity of racial and ethnic groups, recognizing that the Asian Pacific American community is a thriving and integral part of American society and culture, supporting the goals and ideals of Asian Pacific American Heritage Month, and recognizing the contributions of Asian Pacific Americans to the United States.

Whereas section 102 of title 36, United States Code, officially designated each May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month and requested the President to issue a proclamation calling on the people of the United States to observe

the month with appropriate programs, ceremonies, and activities;

Whereas the selection of May as the month for Asian Pacific American Heritage Month was significant because of two historical events that occurred in May: first, May 7, 1843, when the first Japanese immigrants arrived in the United States, and second, May 10, 1869, when, with substantial contributions from Chinese immigrants, the first transcontinental railroad was completed;

Whereas Asian Pacific American Heritage Month provides the people of the United States with an opportunity to recognize the achievements, contributions, history, and concerns of Asian Pacific Americans;

Whereas according to the Census Bureau, an estimated 12.5 million United States residents trace their ethnic heritage, in full or in part, to Asia or the Pacific Islands;

Whereas Asian Pacific Americans have made many innovative contributions to the United States, ranging from the first transcontinental railroad to the internet;

Whereas in the late 18th century Filipino sailors formed the first Asian Pacific Americans communities in the bayous of Louisiana;

Whereas Asian Pacific Americans have added to the vast cultural wealth of the United States; and

Whereas Americans of Asian Pacific heritage, who include immigrant and indigenous populations, have honorably served in the Armed Forces in the defense of the United States during times of armed conflict from the Civil War to Operation Iraqi Freedom: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate*
2 *concurring), That Congress—*

3 (1) recognizes that the United States draws its
4 strength from its incredible diversity of different ra-
5 cial and ethnic groups, including Asian Pacific
6 Americans;

7 (2) recognizes that the Asian Pacific American
8 community is a thriving and integral part of Amer-
9 ican society and culture;

10 (3) supports the goals and ideals of Asian Pa-
11 cific American Heritage Month; and

12 (4) recognizes the contributions of Asian Pacific
13 Americans to the United States.

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