

108TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 677

To amend title 38, United States Code, to deem certain service in the organized military forces of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines and the Philippine Scouts to have been active service for purposes of benefits under programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 11, 2003

Mr. CUNNINGHAM (for himself, Mr. FILNER, Mr. EVANS, Mr. ISSA, Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD, Mr. GUTIERREZ, Mr. WYNN, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Ms. PELOSI, Mr. CASE, Ms. HARMAN, Ms. BORDALLO, Ms. LEE, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Mr. ROYCE, Mr. BECERRA, Mr. INSLEE, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Ms. CORRINE BROWN of Florida, Mr. FROST, Mr. DAVIS of Illinois, Mr. McDERMOTT, Ms. LOFGREN, and Mr. LANTOS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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## A BILL

To amend title 38, United States Code, to deem certain service in the organized military forces of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Philippines and the Philippine Scouts to have been active service for purposes of benefits under programs administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*  
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Filipino Veterans Eq-  
3 uity Act of 2003”.

4 **SEC. 2. CERTAIN SERVICE IN THE ORGANIZED MILITARY**  
5 **FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE PHIL-**  
6 **IPPINE SCOUTS DEEMED TO BE ACTIVE**  
7 **SERVICE.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 107 of title 38, United  
9 States Code, is amended—

10 (1) in subsection (a)—

11 (A) by striking “not” after “Army of the  
12 United States, shall”; and

13 (B) by striking “, except benefits  
14 under—” and all that follows in that subsection  
15 and inserting a period;

16 (2) in subsection (b)—

17 (A) by striking “not” after “Armed Forces  
18 Voluntary Recruitment Act of 1945 shall”; and

19 (B) by striking “except—” and all that fol-  
20 lows in that subsection and inserting a period;  
21 and

22 (3) by striking subsections (c) and (d).

23 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS.—(1) The heading  
24 of such section is amended to read as follows:

1 **“§ 107. Certain service deemed to be active service:**  
2 **service in organized military forces of the**  
3 **Philippines and in the Philippine**  
4 **Scouts”.**

5 (2) The item relating to such section in the table of  
6 sections at the beginning of chapter 1 of such title is  
7 amended to read as follows:

“107. Certain service deemed to be active service: service in organized military  
forces of the Philippines and in the Philippine Scouts.”.

8 **SEC. 3. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

9 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The amendments made by this  
10 Act shall take effect on January 1, 2004.

11 (b) **APPLICABILITY.**—No benefits shall accrue to any  
12 person for any period before the effective date of this Act  
13 by reason of the amendments made by this Act.

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