

RESOLVED, That the General Assembly urges the United States Congress to pass the Filipino Veterans Equity Act without delay; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the General Assembly urges President Bush to take a more active role in calling for the passage of the Filipino Veterans Equity Act; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to President George W. Bush, the White House, Washington, D.C. 20500 and to the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Paul S. Sarbanes and Barbara A. Mikulski, Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and Representatives Wayne T. Gilchrest, Robert L. Ehrlich, Jr., Benjamin L. Cardin, Albert R. Wynn, Steny Hamilton Hoyer, Roscoe G. Bartlett, Elijah E. Cummings, and Constance A. Morella, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515.

Signed May 16, 2002.

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**Joint Resolution No. 27**

**(House Joint Resolution No. 35)**

A House Joint Resolution concerning

**HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean**

FOR the purpose of urging Congress to ~~vote against~~ oppose cutting certain funds designated for HIV/AIDS prevention and education programs in the Caribbean.

WHEREAS, Before 1985, there was only one identified case of HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean and today the Caribbean has the second highest rate of HIV/AIDS in the world after Sub-Saharan Africa; and

WHEREAS, An organization of Caribbean-American elected and appointed officials recently spoke at the White House about the need in the Caribbean for funding for public awareness, diagnosis, and treatment of HIV/AIDS; and

WHEREAS, Nine out of 12 countries with the highest HIV prevalence in the Americas are in the Caribbean basin, and the countries of Haiti, Bahamas, and the Dominican Republic are the worst-affected; and

WHEREAS, It is estimated that 74,000 Haitian children had lost their mothers to AIDS by the end of 1999; and

WHEREAS, The Third Border Initiative, announced last year by the Bush Administration, set aside \$20 million in fiscal year 2002 that is designated for HIV/AIDS prevention and education programs in the Caribbean but it is estimated that approximately \$260 million per year is required to combat HIV/AIDS; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the General Assembly of Maryland urges Congress to ~~vote against~~ oppose cutting the \$20