

~~WHEREAS, In the November 2000 U.S. Presidential Election it is reported that many African American citizens of several states, including the State of Florida, were disenfranchised from their right to vote; and~~

WHEREAS, The Voting Rights Act of 1965 made specific provisions to mitigate against extraordinary racial discrimination in voting rights; and

WHEREAS, These provisions applied to certain areas of the nation for a limited period of time; and

WHEREAS, These certain areas included several jurisdictions where voting irregularities took place during ~~the 2000 Presidential Election~~ recent elections; and

WHEREAS, Racial discrimination in voting ~~thus~~ continues to be a problem today; and

WHEREAS, These provisions of the Voting Rights Act that provide safeguards against racial discrimination in voting will expire in 2007, unless Congress renews these provisions; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the General Assembly of Maryland urge Congress to reauthorize all provisions in the Voting Rights Act that are scheduled to expire in 2007; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to the Honorable Parris N. Glendening, Governor of Maryland; the Honorable Thomas V. Mike Miller, Jr., President of the Senate of Maryland; and the Honorable Casper R. Taylor, Jr., Speaker of the House of Delegates; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services 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. 26**

**(House Joint Resolution No. 26)**

A House Joint Resolution concerning

**Filipino World War II Veterans**

FOR the purpose of urging the U.S. Congress to pass the Filipino Veterans Equity Act; and acknowledging the important role played by Filipino veterans in World War II.