

WHEREAS, The colonial era ended on July 4, 1946, when Manuel Roxas became the first president of an independent Republic of the Philippines; and

WHEREAS, Filipinos immigrated to the United States in large numbers, first arriving in Louisiana in 1765 and Hawaii in the 1850's as laborers on sugar plantations; and

WHEREAS, By the late 1920's, Filipinos were the largest ethnic group on the west coast and today Filipinos account for more than 20% of Asian Americans and immigration to the United States remains high; and

WHEREAS, Filipino communities in the United States are vibrant and diverse with a greater than 75% labor participation rate, the highest among all Asian Americans, including many Filipino immigrants who are highly skilled professionals including lawyers, doctors, and nurses; and

WHEREAS, More than 36% of Filipino Americans hold bachelor's degrees or higher and Filipino communities value education, family, and hard work therefore Filipino immigration adds a unique and valuable dimension to American multiculturalism; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the General Assembly recognizes, honors, and celebrates the centennial of the special relationship between the United States and the Republic of the Philippines; and be it further

RESOLVED, That the General Assembly acknowledges and hallows the historic ties between the peoples of the United States and the Philippines; and be it further

RESOLVED, That a copy of this Resolution be forwarded by the Department of Legislative Services to the Honorable Fidel Valdez Ramos, President of the Republic of the Philippines, and to Raul Ch. Rabe, Ambassador, c/o Embassy of the Philippines, 1600 Massachusetts Avenue, NW, Washington, D.C. 20036; 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; and 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.~~

Signed May 21, 1998.

Joint Resolution No. 10

(House Joint Resolution No. 15)

A House Joint Resolution concerning

Education - Class Size Reduction Program - Appointment of Special Study Committee

FOR the purpose of requesting the Governor to appoint a special committee to study