

STATE OF ILLINOIS
NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY
SENATE

Senate Resolution No. 160

Offered by Senators Martinez and Delgado; Senator John J. Cullerton, President of the Senate; and Senator Dillard

WHEREAS, The United States 65th Infantry Regiment, better known as the Borinqueneers, traces its lineage from the first U.S. Infantry Battalion of native Puerto Rico Volunteer Troops authorized by Congress in 1899; and

WHEREAS, During World War I, after Puerto Rico patriotically requested that the Selective Service Draft law be extended to Puerto Rico, the 65th Infantry Regiment went to war with the strength of 1,969 men; the unit bravely defended the Panama Canal and fought overseas for liberty; and

WHEREAS, After serving in both the North African and European theaters during World War II, the 65th Infantry Regiment stayed after Germany's surrender to serve in dangerous security, anti-sabotage, and other occupation missions around Kaiserslautern and Mannheim, Germany; the troops of the 65th were among the last units to come home from the war; and

WHEREAS, In 1950, after arriving in Pusan, the men of the 65th Infantry Regiment were one of the first fighting infantrymen of the U.S. 3rd Infantry Division (The Rock of the

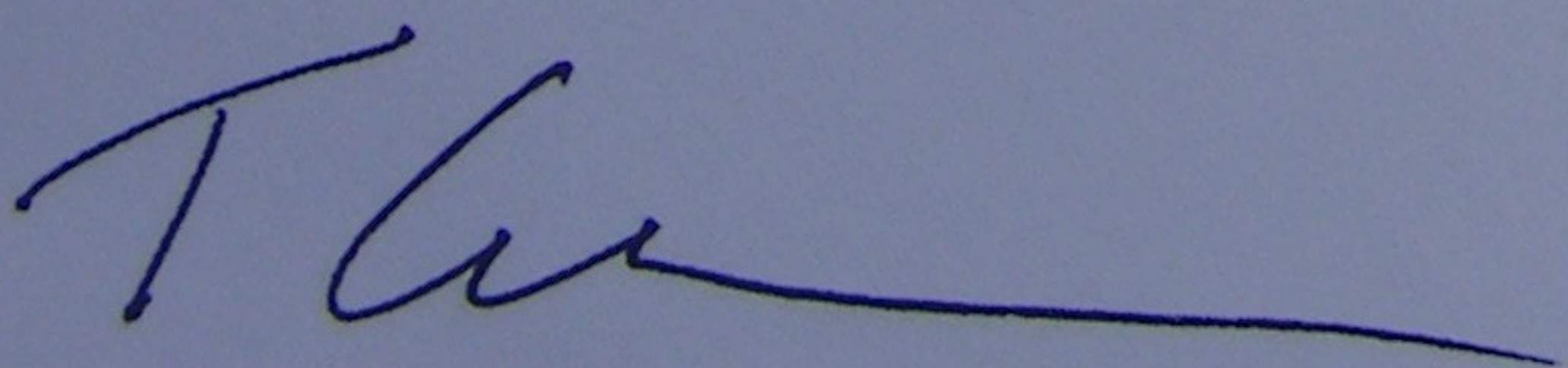
RESOLVED, That we urge Congress and the President to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the Borinqueneers of the U.S. 65th Infantry Regiment; and be it further

RESOLVED, That we encourage the Governor of the State of Illinois to issue a proclamation articulating his support in granting the Congressional Gold Medal to the U.S. 65th Infantry Regiment and to utilize his resources in realizing the aforementioned request; and be it further

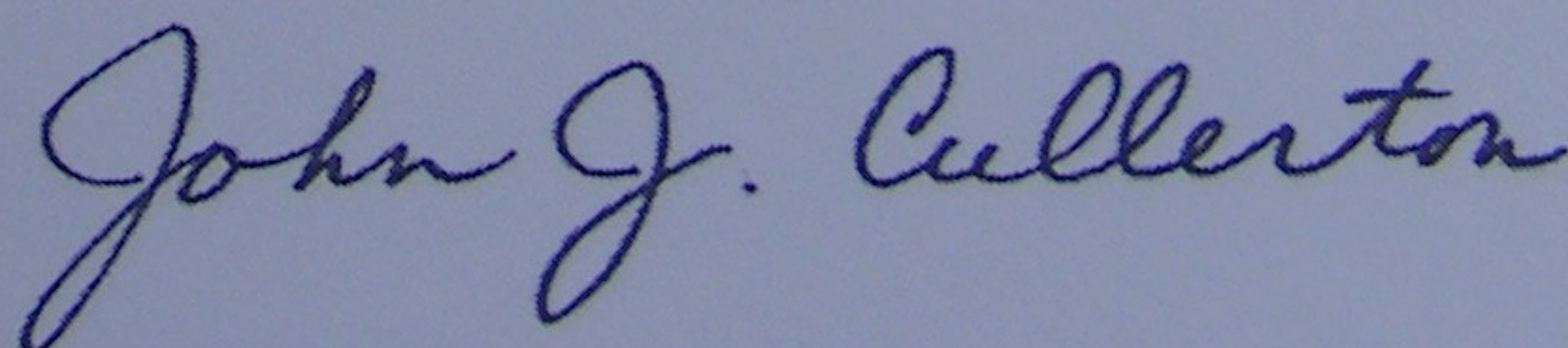
RESOLVED, That we commend the efforts of the original U.S. 65th Infantry Regiment Association for their work as the principle keepers of the Borinqueneers' brave flame of devotion to Duty, Honor, and Country; and be it further

RESOLVED, That suitable copies of this resolution be sent to the President of the United States, the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, the Resident Commissioner of Puerto Rico, the members of the Illinois Congressional Delegation, the Speaker and Minority Leader of the Illinois House of Representatives, the President of the U.S. 65th Veterans' Association, the Chairman of the Borinqueneer CGM Alliance, and the Puerto Rican Agenda Committee.

Adopted by the Senate, May 21, 2013.



Secretary of the Senate



President of the Senate