

GOVERNMENT OF PUERTO RICO MUNICIPALITY OF PATILLAS LEGISLATURE PATILLAS, PUERTO RICO



RESOLUTION NUM. 15

SERIAL 2013-2014

RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF PATILLAS, PUERTO RICO TO PETITION THE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERS OF THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES TO ISSUE THE CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL TO THE 65^{TH} INFANTRY MILITARY REGIMENT OF PUERTO RICO.

PETITION

The 65th Infantry Regiment, known as "The Borinqueneers", were formed in Puerto Rico in 1899 by the U.S. Congress as a segregated military unit composed of soldiers and some recruits primarily Puerto Rican and other Latino officials.

Puerto Ricans have a special place in the history of the U.S. military. When called to the frontlines in the Korean Conflict, 65th men stood impressively, receiving praise from American General Douglas MacArthur. They fought bravely and many died as members of these segregated units that participated in the First and Second World Wars and the Korean Conflict. During the Korean War, 750 soldiers from the 65th Infantry were missing in action and another 100 disappeared. They were arguably the largest Latino unit and at that time were the most segregated in its class.

The "Borinqueneers" were the largest bayonet battalion in the history of the U.S. Army; they are attributed the final assault. It was in early 1951, while maintaining the fighting in Korea, two battalions of the 65th fixed bayonets stormed straight to the enemy, dominating them in achieving their strategic position.

Mr. Larry Bystran columnist was quoted by Fox News Latino on January 8, 2013 the words of General Douglas MacArthur: "The Puerto Ricans forming the ranks of the gallant 65th Infantry, gave daily proof on the battlefields of Korea of their courage, determination and resolute will to victory, their invincible loyalty to the United States, and his fervent devotion to the immutable principles of human relations; which the American continent and Puerto Rico have in common. They are writing a brilliant record of heroism in battle and I'm really proud of them under my command. I wish we could count on many more like them."

As was established by an Act of Congress on March 2nd, 1899, the 65th Infantry Regiment was the only Hispanic segregated unit of the Armed Forces of the United States that had prominent performance in American military history by participating in wars where this government was involved.

Of all the honors that Congress can vest, the awarding of a Gold Medal is considered the most distinguished of all. The medal has been invested to other minority veterans

This Municipal Legislature endorses this historic feat and the honorable mention of this Regiment, and urges the Congressional Hispanic Congress of the United States of America to promote in accordance the Gold Medal to Hispanic veterans who served with tenacity.

THEREFORE:

Be resolved by the Municipal Legislature of Patillas, Puerto Rico, meeting today, October 16, 2013, as follows:

Section 1st.)

Request the President, the House of Representatives and the Senate, to support and promote that legislation be granted the Congressional Gold Medal to the 65th Infantry Regiment of Puerto Rico.

Section 2nd.)

Send copy of this Resolution duly approved and certified to the Hispanic lawmakers in Federal Congress José A. Serrano, Nydia Velazquez, Luis Gutierrez, and Comissioner Pedro Pierluisi and Senator Robert Menéndez.

Section 3rd.)

That this Resolution be duly translated into English language and sent by certified copy to the President of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate of the United States.

Section 4th.)

That this Resolution shall take effect upon its approval by this Honorable Municipal Legislature and signed by the Honorable Mayor.

Aproved by the Municipal Legislature of Patillas, Puerto Rico on October 17, 2013.

Hon. José A. Rivera Velázquez President of Patillas Legislature

Mrs. Mayra Díaz Ortiz Secretary of Legislature

Aproved and sign out by the Hon. Norberto Soto Figueroa, Mayor of Patillas, Puerto Rico on October 18, 2013.

Hon. Norberto Soto Figueroa

Mayor of Patillas



COMMONWEALTH OF PUERTO RICO MUNICIPAL GOVERMENT OF PATILLAS MUNICIPAL LEGISLATURE OFFICE PO. BOX 485 PATILLAS, PUERTO RICO 00723



CERTIFICATION

I, Mayra Díaz Ortiz, Secretary of Municipal Legislature of Patillas, Puerto Rico, at this present time certifies that the copy of the Resolution Number 15, Series 2013-2014, is a faithful and exact of the original. The Resolution was approved in Ordinary Section of October17th 2013. This approval reflected 11 votes with 0 against vote. The members of Legislature of Patillas are:

Hon. José A. Rivera Velázquez

Hon. José R. Pagán Morales

Hon. José A. Tirado Neris

Hon. María M. Reyes Morales

Hon. Valeriano Rivera Lebrón

Hon. Hiram R. Bernier Defendini

Hon. Ángeles A. Solís Soto

Hon. Eladio Alicea Cintrón

Hon. Pedro Rodríguez Ortiz

Hon. Norma E. Marrero Costa

Hon. Ramfis Soto Westerband

Certify Correctly,

Stamp

Mayra/Díaz Órtíz

Secretary of Municipal Legislature

Patillas, Puerto Rico