

**RES 14-016**

Wilmington, Delaware  
May 1, 2014

**WHEREAS**, the Army Appropriations Bill created by Congress on March 2, 1889 authorized the first body of native troops in Puerto Rico; and

#3930

Sponsor:

Council  
Member  
Cabrera

Co-Sponsor:

Council  
Member  
Prado

**WHEREAS**, the "Porto Rico Provisional Regiment of Infantry" was organized in 1901 and during World War I, the infantry defended the Panama Canal and upon its return to Puerto Rico in 1919 was renamed "The 65<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment," and

**WHEREAS**, in 1950, after arriving in Pusan, Korea, the 65<sup>th</sup> Infantry (also known as "The Borinqueneers") joined the United States 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division and were amongst the first infantrymen to meet the enemy on the battlefields of Korea; and

**WHEREAS**, the 65<sup>th</sup> Infantry bravely defended their regiment against the Chinese People's Liberation Army, who had joined the war on the North Korean side, thereby enabling the U.S. 1<sup>st</sup> Marine Division to retreat back to Hungnam avert a potential catastrophe; and

**WHEREAS**, throughout the course of the Korean War, Puerto Rico's 65<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division proportionally suffered more casualties than a majority of the states; and

**WHEREAS**, the 65<sup>th</sup> Infantry was awarded 9 Battle Campaign Awards for bravery and over the span of WWI, WWII and the Korean War, the 65<sup>th</sup> Infantry earned 10 Distinguished Service Crosses, 258 Silver Stars, 628 Bronze Stars, more than 2,700 Purple Hearts and many other individual awards; and

**WHEREAS**, the 65<sup>th</sup> Infantry loyally defended America against all enemies despite facing discrimination, segregation and unusual obstacles.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WILMINGTON**, that Council joins the national effort in recognizing Hispanic Veterans who courageously served our Country and further urges the United States Congress to award the Congressional Gold Medal to the 65<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment "Borinqueneers".

Passed by City Council,  
May 1, 2014

Attest: Maribel Seijo  
City Clerk

Approved as to form this 29<sup>th</sup>  
day of April, 2014.

Joseph Dhatun  
Assistant City Solicitor