

Proclamation

- Whereas,** during the month of June, Filipinos around the world will celebrate the 119th anniversary of Philippine Independence; and
- Whereas,** the Philippine Declaration of Independence was enacted on June 12, 1898, in Cavite, Philippines, south of Manila, when General Emilio Aguinaldo proclaimed sovereignty and independence from Spain's colonial rule after winning the Philippine Revolution; and
- Whereas,** on that same day, the first ever Republic in Asia was established as the Republic of the Philippines with General Emilio Aguinaldo as President, and the Philippine Flag and National Anthem were officially consecrated and honored; and
- Whereas,** the hard won Philippine freedom was short-lived with the outbreak of the expansionist Spanish American War ending with the 1898 Treaty of Paris, and Spain seceding the Philippines to the United States; and
- Whereas,** in defense of their freedom, the Filipino people resisted U.S. domination by waging the Philippine-American War; and
- Whereas,** the United States government did not recognize Philippine Independence until the signing of the Treaty of Manila on July 4, 1946, and July 4 is now observed in the Philippines as Philippine-American Friendship Day; and
- Whereas,** the designation of June 12, 1898 as Philippine Independence Day was signed into Philippine law on August 4, 1964; and
- Whereas,** this year marks the 75th anniversary of the Bataan Death March of 1942, a time to remember and honor the thousands of Filipino and American soldiers of the United States Armed Forces of the far East who fought and died gallantly so we can live in freedom; and
- Whereas,** today, there are 3.4 million people of Filipino descent in the U.S., including Puerto Rico; 1.5 million in California; 33,000 are in Alameda County; and
- Whereas,** the Philippines remains in the hearts and minds of Filipino immigrants living in the U.S.; and as generations of Filipinos travel back and forth they embrace the traditions and culture of the Philippine society, and apply these multicultural influences, now seen with establishing official Sister City relations with Dumaguete; and
- Whereas,** the vibrant Filipino community, built on the rich history of the Philippines, continues to be a significant part of making the City of Alameda's community great.

Now, therefore, be it resolved, that I, Trish Herrera Spencer, Mayor of the City of Alameda, do hereby proclaim June 3, 2017 as

Philippine Independence Day

in the City of Alameda and call upon the residents to observe the day with appropriate ceremonies, programs, and activities.


Trish Herrera Spencer
Mayor