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**House of Representatives**  
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA  
HARRISBURG

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LGBT EQUALITY  
ARTS AND CULTURE  
EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

## MEMORANDUM

To: All House Members

From: Representative Patty Kim

Re: Designating October 2013 as Filipino American History Month

Date: September 23, 2013

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In the near future, I will introduce a resolution designating October 2013 as "Filipino American History Month" in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The earliest documented Filipino presence in the United States goes all the way back to October 1587. In 1763, the first permanent Filipino settlement was established in the United States in Louisiana. Today, Filipino Americans, with a population of approximately 3.1 million people, are the second largest Asian American group in the nation.

Individuals of Filipino descent have made numerous important contributions to the healthcare industry, fine arts, music, dance, literature, education, and countless other areas. Filipinos and Filipino Americans have fought bravely beside their fellow citizens in wars dating back to the Civil War and through the present conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan. It is estimated that over 250,000 Filipino Americans fought to protect this nation during World War II.

Unfortunately, the contributions of Filipino Americans have often been overlooked in the writing, teaching, and learning of American history. It is imperative that we recognize this group that has had such a positive impact on our great nation.

Please join me in co-sponsoring this legislation.