WHEREAS, the National Asian Pacific American Bar Association (NAPABA) is the preeminent professional development organization and voice for 50,000 Asian Pacific American attorneys, judges, law professors, and law students. NAPABA represents the interests of nearly 90 national, state, and local Asian Pacific American bar associations.

WHEREAS, NAPABA is the national voice for the Asian Pacific American legal profession; promotes justice, equity, and opportunity for Asian Pacific Americans; and fosters professional development, legal scholarship, advocacy, and community involvement.

WHEREAS, while under colonial rule of the United States, thousands of Filipinos answered the United States’ call to arms in World War II.

WHEREAS, the aforementioned Filipino soldiers did not receive pay equal to that of the American soldiers despite facing the dangers during service.

WHEREAS, the Rescission Act of 1946 retroactively annulled the service records of the soldiers in the Philippine Army, Guerilla forces, and the New Scouts - making them ineligible to receive the same benefits that any veteran of U.S. military service would enjoy, the benefits promised to them for their service.

WHEREAS, NAPABA honors the service of these veterans to the United States and their contributions to history, including supporting the successful passage of the Filipino Veterans of World War II Congressional Gold Medal Act (Public Law No: 114-265), signed into law by President Obama in 2016, and advocated for benefits to be granted to veterans.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, THAT NAPABA:

1. Calls upon Congress to repeal the Rescission Act of 1946;
2. Calls upon Congress to reinstate the service records of all Philippine World War II veterans affected by the Rescission Act of 1946;
3. Calls upon Congress to issue a statement recognizing the service of all Philippine World War II veterans affected by the Rescission Act of 1946;
4. Supports efforts to extend benefits to and recognize the service of Filipino World War II veterans, including but not limited to supporting Filipino Veterans Family Reunification Act (S. 1598 & H.R. 2908, 116th Congress), Reuniting Families Act (H.R. 3799, 116th Congress), Filipino Veterans Fairness Act (H.R. 2823, 116th Congress) and reinstatement of Filipino World War II Veterans Parole Program (FWVP);

5. Authorizes its president, board, and staff to communicate the content of this resolution to its members, affiliates, other bar associations, members of Congress, the Administration, the press, and others to take steps to implement this resolution, as they deem necessary; and,

6. Supports this resolution as a policy position until it is withdrawn or modified by subsequent resolution.