



AB 123: Fact Sheet

Bonta Bill Includes School Instruction on Filipino Americans' Role in Farm Worker Movement

Summary

AB 123 requires the State Board of Education to ensure in the state curriculum and framework, inclusion of the contributions of Filipino Americans to the farm workers labor movement of California.

Background

The American farm labor movement has had a tremendous impact on the history of California. However, the story of the Filipino Americans' contributions to this great movement has been widely untold in our schools. **AB 123 seeks to rectify this problem by exploring those important contributions and adding them to the public school curriculum.**

According to the 2010 report by the U.S. Census Bureau, Filipino Americans comprise the largest Asian population within California, totaling 1.1 million residents. It is time to begin educating more Californians about the important role of this population—particularly during significant historical times such as the labor movement.

The names and historical significance of influential Filipino American leaders in the movement – such as Larry Itliong - are unknown to most of our school children. Itliong was one of the leaders of the Agricultural Workers Organization Committee, who unified farm workers and started the Delano Grape Strike of 1965-1970. This strike was pivotal in inspiring the farm labor movement towards ending the suppression and oppression of farm workers' rights. Itliong and many others deserve to have their stories shared with future generations.

AB 123 provides instruction on the critical role of Filipino Americans on the history of our state, and honors noteworthy historical Filipino American figures who never received proper recognition for their work in the farm workers labor movement.

Support

- Alameda Education Association
- American Federation of State, County, and Municipal Employees
- Anakbayan East Bay
- Anakbayan Los Angeles
- Anakbayan San Diego
- Anakbayan Seattle
- Anakbayan Silicon Valley
- Asian Americans for Advancing Justice
- Asian Americans for Civil Rights & Equality
- Asian American Drug Abuse Program
- California Immigrant Policy Center
- California Federation of Teachers
- City of Carson
- Club Asian Sentinels Integration & Awareness, Belmont High School
- Consulate General of the Philippines in San Francisco
- Council of Philippine American Organizations of San Diego County
- Councilmember Chen of Alameda
- Filipino Advocates for Justice
- Filipino-American Educator Association of California
- Filipino American Educators Association of San Diego County
- Filipino Memorial Project
- Filipino Migrant Center
- KAYA Filipino Americans for Progress
- Manilatown Heritage Foundation

Support (continued)

- National Federation of Filipino American Associations
- Philippine National Day Association
- Pilipino American Society for Education
- UCLA, Afrikan Student Union
- UCLA, American Indian Student Association
- UCLA, Asian Pacific Coalition
- UCLA, Muslim Students Association
- UCLA, Samahang Filipino
- UCLA, Vietnamese Student Union
- United Farm Workers of America
- University of the Philippines Alumni Association
Sacramento & Vicinity
- Several hundred individuals

Opposition

- None on file