

ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION No. 78

STATE OF NEW JERSEY

214th LEGISLATURE

INTRODUCED MAY 13, 2010

Sponsored by:

Assemblyman ANGEL FUENTES

District 5 (Camden and Gloucester)

Assemblywoman NELLIE POU

District 35 (Bergen and Passaic)

Assemblywoman VALERIE VAINIERI HUTTLE

District 37 (Bergen)

Assemblyman JACK CONNERS

District 7 (Burlington and Camden)

Assemblywoman ANNETTE QUIJANO

District 20 (Union)

Co-Sponsored by:

Assemblymen Coughlin, Wilson and O'Donnell

SYNOPSIS

Urges Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee to issue postage stamp honoring Borinqueneers.

CURRENT VERSION OF TEXT

As introduced.

1 AN ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION urging the Citizens' Stamp Advisory
2 Committee to issue a postage stamp honoring the Borinqueneers,
3 the only Hispanic-segregated unit in United States military
4 history.

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6 WHEREAS, The 65th Infantry Regiment, created in 1899 as the only
7 Hispanic-segregated unit in United States military history, was
8 mandated by Congress to be comprised primarily of Puerto Ricans;
9 and

10 WHEREAS, The 65th Infantry Regiment became better known as the
11 Borinqueneers from the word Borinquen, the name by which the
12 native Taino Indians called Puerto Rico; and

13 WHEREAS, The Borinqueneers, throughout their service in World War
14 I, World War II, and most notably the Korean War, served with
15 distinction, participated in nine major campaigns, and earned the
16 respect and admiration of their fellow soldiers and military
17 authorities, most notably General Douglas MacArthur; and

18 WHEREAS, The 65th Infantry Borinqueneers earned two United States
19 Presidential Unit Citations, a Meritorious Unit Commendation, and
20 two Republic of Korea Unit Citations, and individual members
21 earned ten Distinguished Service Crosses, 421 Silver Stars, and 156
22 Bronze Stars; and

23 WHEREAS, The Borinqueneers made valuable contributions to the
24 United States' war efforts, and suffered a tremendous number of
25 casualties, with more than 3,000 wounded including 600 killed; and

26 WHEREAS, Although more than 20,000 Puerto Ricans have served
27 courageously as Borinqueneers since World War I, their
28 contribution and sacrifices have gone largely unnoticed; and

29 WHEREAS, Honoring the Borinqueneers with a commemorative
30 United States stamp would be a fitting tribute for these brave
31 soldiers and would serve to educate the American public about their
32 existence and service; now, therefore,

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34 **BE IT RESOLVED** by the General Assembly of the State of New
35 Jersey:

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37 1. This House recognizes the service of the 65th Infantry
38 Borinqueneers, especially during World War I, World War II, and
39 the Korean War, and respectfully urges the Citizens' Stamp
40 Advisory Committee to issue a postage stamp honoring the
41 Borinqueneers.

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43 2. Duly authenticated copies of this resolution, signed by the
44 Speaker of the General Assembly and attested by the Clerk thereof,
45 shall be transmitted to the President and Vice President of the
46 United States, each member of the United States Congress elected
47 from this State, the Postmaster General of the United States, and to
48 the chair of the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee.



AR78 FUENTES, POU

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STATEMENT

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This resolution urges the Citizens' Stamp Advisory Committee to issue a postage stamp honoring the Borinqueneers. The Borinqueneers are the 65th Infantry Regiment created in 1899 by a congressional mandate. It is the only Hispanic-segregated unit in United States military history.

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The Borinqueneers, throughout their service in World War I, World War II, and most notably the Korean War, served with distinction, participated in nine major campaigns, and earned the respect and admiration of their fellow soldiers and military authorities, most notably General Douglas MacArthur. They earned two United States Presidential Unit Citations, a Meritorious Unit Commendation, and two Republic of Korea Unit Citations. Individual members earned ten Distinguished Service Crosses, 421 Silver Stars, and 156 Bronze Stars.