

SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 225

RECEIVED 18 [Signature]

Introduced by SENATOR EDGARDO J. ANGARA and
SENATOR JUAN MIGUEL ZUBIRI

RESOLUTION COMMENDING FORMER KOREAN AMBASSADOR JOONG-KYUNG CHOI FOR HIS EFFORTS IN STRENGTHENING TIES BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA

WHEREAS, Former Ambassador Joong-Kyung Choi inspired Filipinos by letting them know that the Korean people are still cherishing the sacrifice of 112 young Filipino soldiers during the Korean War in 1950;

WHEREAS, during those dark times of struggle, when hope could have easily been lost, Korea was able to regain its democracy through the help of the United Nations Command which included the young Filipinos;

WHEREAS, to pay tribute to the memory of the young soldiers' sacrifice, Former Ambassador Joong-Kyung Choi committed the construction of a Philippine-Korean Friendship Center, which shall also house a war memorial, to honor the Korean War veterans from the Philippines;

WHEREAS, to promote the coexisting and mutual beneficial growth based on the complementary industrial structures of each country, Former Ambassador Joong-Kyung Choi designed and proposed to the GOP the concept of MIC (Multi-Industry Cluster) in line with the 60th anniversary of the diplomatic ties between the Republic of the Philippines and the Republic of Korea in 2009;

WHEREAS, the MIC program is a vehicle in which clusters of agro-industrial, manufacturing, and eco-tourism zones in appropriate Philippine provinces are combined to achieve the maximum economic potential of that area;

WHEREAS, the MIC program aims to develop huge agro-industrial or aqua-industrial parks in the Philippines comprising of plantation and related facilities, renewable energy plant, feedstuff and agro-factories in order to promote food security and reduce rural poverty through increasing employment;

WHEREAS, Former Ambassador Joong-Kyung Choi encouraged Koreans to go to the Philippines, who have consistently accounted for the biggest tourist arrivals, and where around 100,000 have made the Philippines their country of residence;

WHEREAS, Former Ambassador Joong-Kyung Choi exerted efforts to enhance cultural exchange and cooperation between the Republic of the Philippines and the Republic of Korea by hosting annual Korean Film Festivals and inviting several Korean Arts Theatres to the Philippines, especially the holding of the grand scale Korean

Fireworks display in Manila Bay for the 60th anniversary of the diplomatic ties between the Republic of the Philippines and the Republic of Korea in 2009;

WHEREAS, to ensure the continuous cultural exchange between the two countries, Former Ambassador Joong-Kyung Choi committed to establish the Institute of Korean Culture in the Philippines which will be supported by the Korean government from 2010;

WHEREAS, apart from his official activity as a diplomat, Former Ambassador Joong-Kyung Choi personally visited several barangays to facilitate donations made by the Korean people to the flood-stricken residents who were victims of Tropical Storm "Ondoy" last September 2009;

WHEREAS, Former Ambassador Joong-Kyung Choi was instrumental in giving young Filipinos the opportunity to learn by securing personal scholarship slots in Korean universities for them;

WHEREAS, Former Ambassador Joong-Kyung Choi has been recently appointed as a Senior Secretary to the President for Economic Affairs of the Republic of Korea.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines, to commend Former Ambassador Joong-Kyung Choi for his outstanding efforts in opening a new era of ties between the Republic of the Philippines and the Republic of Korea.

Approved.


EDGARDO J. ANGARA


JUAN MIGUEL ZUBIRI