FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

Second Regular Session

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SENATE

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P.S. Resolution No. 667

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INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

RESOLUTION

COMMENDING SENATOR MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO FOR HAVING BEEN ELECTED AND TOPPING THE ELECTION AS JUDGE IN THE HIGHLY POWERFUL INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

WHEREAS, the Rome Statute provides for the creation of the International Criminal Court (ICC). The ICC is established to help end impunity for the perpetrators of the most serious crimes of concern to the international community;

WHEREAS, there will be 18 judges that will be elected by the Assembly of State Parties. Judges are required to be of "high moral character, impartiality and integrity;"

WHEREAS, the Philippine Government nominated the candidature of Senator Mirriam Defensor Santiago as Judge in the ICC for her various expertise in international humanitarian law, vast experience in criminal law and her known advocacy for the Rome Statute of the ICC.

WHEREAS, Senator Santiago fulfills the requirements and qualifications for Judges provided under the Rome Statute;

WHEREAS, has the distinction of having served in all three branches of Government. She served as Presiding Judge of the Regional Trial Court from 1983-1987. She headed the Commission of Immigration and Deportation from 1988-1989. She is an incumbent Senator of the Republic of the Philippines. She is also a highly regarded member of the academe.

WHEREAS, Senator Santiago has a doctorate degree in law at the University of Michigan as a Barbour Scholar and DeWitt Fellow. She is an expert in international law having served as part of the 2000 United Nations roster of eminent and highly qualified experts in international law. She also became a Chairperson of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate from 2004-2010.

WHEREAS, on December 12, 2011, Senator Santiago has overwhelmingly won a seat as a Judge in the highly powerful ICC held in New York;

WHEREAS, becomes the first Filipino, first Asian and the first ever female Judge from a developing state in Asia to join the International Criminal Court as Judge, thus giving honor to the Philippines in the history of ICC;

WHEREAS, she topped the poll's first round, effectively gaining a seat with 79 votes out of 104 valid votes, an indication of the strong support from States Parties and even besting the other 17 candidates from every region vying for six seats:

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to commend Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago for having been elected and topping the election as Judge in the highly powerful International Criminal Court.

Adopted,

JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

Senator