


FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Third Regular Session )



13 JUN -5 P3:10

**SENATE**

P.S. Res. No. **954**

RECEIVED BY: 

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Introduced by Senator Teofisto "TG" Guingona III

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**RESOLUTION**

**EXPRESSING THE GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION OF THE SENATE TO THE HONORABLE FRANCIS N. PANGILINAN FOR HIS INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SENATE**

**WHEREAS**, Honorable Francis N. Pangilinan, first elected Senator of the 12<sup>th</sup> Congress in 2001, and reelected in 2007, served as the Chairman of the Committee on Justice and Human Rights, Education, Arts and Culture, Agriculture and Food, Agrarian Reform, Housing, Resettlement and Urban Development, Tourism, Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development, and Ethics and Privileges;

**WHEREAS**, he was Chairman of the Committee on Rules and Majority Leader from 2004 until 2008, making him the longest serving Majority Leader since 1987;

**WHEREAS**, as chairman of the justice and education committees, he steered the enactment into law of several landmark legislation such as R.A. 9227, or the Judiciary Compensation and Modernization Act, which doubled the pay and other benefits of judges and justices; R.A. 9279, Strengthening and Rationalizing the National Prosecution Service, which increased the compensation and benefits of public prosecutors; R.A. 9285, or the Alternative Dispute Resolution Law; RA 9344, the Juvenile Justice and Welfare Act; R.A. 9946, which granted additional retirement, survivorship and other benefits to members of the Judiciary; R.A. 9293, the Philippine Teacher Professionalization Act or the Balik Turo Program; and R.A. 9500, Strengthening the University of the Philippines as the National University;

**WHEREAS**, as Chairman of the Committees on Agriculture and Food and Co-chairman of the Congressional Oversight Committee on Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization, he advocated for the improvement of the quality of life of farmers and fisherfolk through the sustainable agricultural communities, and tapping public-private partnerships in modernizing agriculture towards profitability and food security;

**WHEREAS**, he pushed for the live streaming of the Senate committee and plenary proceedings making the Senate greatly accessible and more transparent to the public, especially Filipinos abroad;

**WHEREAS**, he was the brainchild of the Judicial Executive Legislative Advisory and Consultative Council (JELACC), a body created to serve as the forum and venue for the representatives of the three branches of the government to formulate and undertake measures that would uphold the primacy of the rule of law;

**WHEREAS**, as the longest serving *ex officio* member of the Judicial and Bar Council representing the Senate, he introduced reforms in facilitating the screening of nominees to the vacancies in the judiciary and proposed the amendment to the JBC Rules to make mandatory the public interviews of nominees to key positions in the Judiciary;

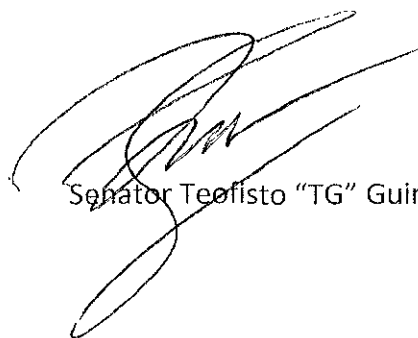
**WHEREAS**, he pursued reforms in the judiciary which led to the increase in application for judgeship positions to as much as 1000% in various courts which paved the way for the significant reduction of vacancies in our courts from a high of 32% down to 16% from 2001 to 2005;

**WHEREAS**, he was elected member of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians representing the Asia-Pacific Group and headed the IPU Human Rights Mission to investigate alleged police aggression towards opposition Members of Parliament in Maldives;

**WHEREAS**, for institutionalizing reforms in the judiciary, strengthening the justice system and the rule of law, protecting and harnessing the youth, establishing partnerships between farmer's organizations and trade sectors, and providing incentives to agriculture and fisheries sector, he truly deserves the admiration of his Colleagues and the Filipino people: *Now therefore, be it*

**RESOLVED BY THE SENATE**, To express, as it hereby expresses, its gratitude and appreciation to the Honorable Francis N. Pangilinan for his invaluable contributions to the Senate.

*Adopted,*



Senator Teofisto "TG" Guingona III