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SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 387

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING INDIRA LACERNA-WIDMANN FOR BRINGING HONOR TO THE COUNTRY BY BEING AMONG THIS YEAR'S RECIPIENTS OF THE PRESTIGIOUS WHITLEY AWARD PRESENTED BY HER ROYAL HIGHNESS, THE PRINCESS ROYAL AT THE ROYAL GEOGRAPHICAL SOCIETY IN LONDON, ENGLAND ON 18 MAY 2017

WHEREAS, the Philippine Senate has in several occasions paid tribute to outstanding Filipinos for bringing pride and glory to the country by becoming champions in their respective fields of endeavor;

WHEREAS, conservationist and Katala Foundation Chief Operating Officer, Indira Lacerna-Widmann, made the country proud when she was named one of six recipients of the prestigious 2017 Whitley Award presented by *Her Royal Highness* The Princess Royal also known as Princess Anne at a ceremony at the Royal Geographical Society in London, England on 18 May 2017 for her efforts in safeguarding the critically endangered Philippine cockatoo;

WHEREAS, dubbed as the Green Oscars or the Oscars for the environmental awards and considered as one of the most prestigious of conservation prizes, the Whitley Award is an annual recognition of the Whitley Fund for Nature to honor exceptional nature conservationists from the developing world;

WHEREAS, Katala Foundation's Indira Lacerna-Widmann was selected from a pool of 166 applicants from around the globe, and is the third Filipino to be honored with said award;

WHEREAS, Indira Lacerna-Widmann was cited for her invaluable work in protecting the critically endangered Philippine cockatoo, or *Katala* in the vernacular, by partnering with former poachers of the fowl and prisoners of the Iwahig Prison and Penal Farm whom she educated and trained to be wildlife wardens for the Palawan fowls;

WHEREAS, Indira Lacerna-Widmann, who has a Master of Science in Environmental Studies degree from the University of the Philippines in Los Baños and Diploma degree in Conservation Education from the Durrell Institute of Conservation and Ecology in the University of Kent Canterbury in the United Kingdom, has started the Philippine Cockatoo Conservation Project in 1998 in Rasa Island, Municipality of Narra, Palawan;

WHEREAS, by being conferred this conservation prize, Indira Lacerna-Widmann has shown to the world the passionate spirit of the Filipino and what a Filipino can achieve when he or she focuses his or her heart and mind to a particular and noble purpose;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Cockatoo Conservation Project by the Katala Foundation has also won for the Municipality of Narra, Palawan the Galing Pook Award in 2015;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to congratulate and commend Indira Lacerna-Widmann for bringing honor to the country by being among this year's recipients of the prestigious Whitley Award presented by *Her Royal Highness*, The Princess Royal at the Royal Geographical Society in London, England on 18 May 2017.

Adopted,



JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI