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SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 460

RECEIVED BY: _____



Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING BUENAVISTA DEVELOPMENT COOPERATIVE (AGRICULTURE-BASED) OF BUENAVISTA, GUIMARAS AND SACRED HEART SAVINGS COOPERATIVE (NON-AGRICULTURE-BASED) OF GALIMUYOD, ILOCOS SUR FOR BEING CONFERRED THE 2017 *GAWAD SA PINAKATANGING KOOPERATIBA* (GAWAD PITAK) HALL OF FAME AWARD BY THE LANDBANK OF THE PHILIPPINES DURING THE *GAWAD SA PINAKATANGING KOOPERATIBA* (GAWAD PITAK) AWARDING CEREMONY ON 14 AUGUST 2017 AT THE PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER IN PASAY CITY, PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, the *Gawad sa Pinakatanging Kooperatiba* or Gawad PITAK is an annual search undertaken by the Land Bank of the Philippines (Land Bank) that recognizes cooperatives which exemplified the social responsibility of being agents of growth in the countryside;

WHEREAS, launched in 1990, the Gawad PITAK is the country's most prestigious award for cooperatives and is awarded to Land Bank-assisted cooperatives in the country that serve as effective channels in providing support, financial or technical, to the economic endeavors of small farmers, fisher folk and other marginalized sectors in our society;

WHEREAS, a recognition first introduced in 1996, cooperatives that have already earned a Gawad PITAK Outstanding Agriculture and Non-Agriculture-Based Cooperatives grand prize and at least a second or third prize are automatically elevated to the Gawad PITAK Hall of Fame status, provided that they have met the minimum qualification requirements for this award;

WHEREAS, eligible cooperatives for the Gawad PITAK Hall of Fame were evaluated via table validation conducted by the Technical Working Group (TWG) composed of Land Bank personnel and representatives from the Senate, House of Representatives, Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), Department of Agriculture (DA), and the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA);

WHEREAS, after the evaluation, the Program Management Committee (PMC) deliberated on the assessment made by the TWG and endorsed eligible cooperatives to the Board of Judges (BOJ) for confirmation by this year's panel headed by the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Cooperatives as Chairperson, with Representative Rico B. Geron, the Chairman of the House Committee on Cooperatives Development as Co-Chairperson, Mr. Alex V. Buenaventura, President and CEO of the Land Bank of the Philippines as Vice

Chairperson, and members – DA Secretary Manuel F. Piñol, DAR Secretary Rafael V. Mariano, and CDA Chairman Orlando R. Ravanera;

WHEREAS, this year's Gawad PITAK Hall of Fame conferees will join the ranks of 30 other remarkable cooperatives conferred during the prize's 27 years of existence and Land Bank is conferring said award to Buenavista Development Cooperative of Buenavista, Guimaras, for the Agriculture-Based category, and to Sacred Heart Savings Cooperative of Galimuyod, Ilocos Sur, for the Non-Agriculture-Based category;

WHEREAS, serving the 98 barangays and 3 municipalities of Guimaras for 18 years now, Buenavista Development Cooperative is elevated to the Hall of Fame status for its contribution to the continuing development of the island province and for fostering an atmosphere conducive to socio-economic opportunities beneficial to its more than 2,000 members;

WHEREAS, a significant figure in the cooperative sector in Region 1 and with over four (4) decades of service bringing opportunities to its members and neighboring communities and provinces, Sacred Heart Savings Cooperative is cited as a conferee to the Gawad PITAK Hall of Fame for bringing a responsive financial program to its 45,000 members, and for providing hundreds of employment opportunities to those in need;

WHEREAS, the Senate of the Philippines proudly joins the Land Bank of the Philippines in acknowledging the vital role of cooperatives in the nation's social and economic progress by stimulating development at the grassroots level through the 2017 *Gawad sa Pinakatanging Kooperatiba* or Gawad PITAK;

RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Senate of the Philippines congratulate and commend Buenavista Development Cooperative (agriculture-based) of Buenavista, Guimaras and Sacred Heart Savings Cooperative (non-agriculture-based) of Galimuyod, Ilocos Sur for being conferred the 2017 *Gawad sa Pinakatanging Kooperatiba* (Gawad PITAK) Hall of Fame award by the Landbank of the Philippines during the *Gawad sa Pinakatanging Kooperatiba* (Gawad PITAK) awarding ceremony on 14 August 2017 at the Philippine International Convention Center in Pasay City, Philippines.

Adopted,


JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI