

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
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SENATE  
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RECEIVED BY: 

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF MOHTARMA  
BENAZIR BHUTTO, AND CONDEMNING HER ASSASSINATION

WHEREAS, Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto was the first woman and youngest Prime Minister of Pakistan, a position she served twice;

WHEREAS, during her stint as Prime Minister, Bhutto advocated women's social and health issues, and rallied against laws and practices discriminating against minorities, women, and children in her country;

WHEREAS, her policies of modernizing and democratizing Pakistan were always met with opposition from religious fundamentalist groups and right-wing conservatives in the government;

WHEREAS, Bhutto was an active and founding member of the Council of Women World Leaders, a network of current and former prime ministers and presidents;

WHEREAS, she was removed from her office in both terms by two different Pakistani Presidents on grounds of alleged corruption but was never tried nor found guilty of such charges in a court of law;

WHEREAS, Bhutto went into self-imposed exile in Dubai in 1998 where she continued to advocate the restoration of democracy in Pakistan;

WHEREAS, Bhutto returned from exile in the later half of 2007 amid death threats;

WHEREAS, Bhutto was assassinated on 27 December 2007, after departing from a political rally in the Pakistani city of Rawalpindi, two weeks before the scheduled Pakistani general elections of 2008 where she was a leading opposition candidate;

WHEREAS, in her death, the world lost a great leader, an advocate of women's rights, a vanguard of democracy, a staunch reformer, and champion of the poor;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to honor the life and achievements of Mohtarma Benazir Bhutto and to condemn her assassination.

Adopted,

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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