

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session

SENATE
P.S. Res. No. 329

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

RESOLUTION
COMMENDING TOMASA DIOSO SALINOR OR "LOLA MASING" FOR HER
COURAGE AND UNWAVERING DETERMINATION TO PURSUE JUSTICE FOR
FILIPINO COMFORT WOMEN DURING WORLD WAR II

WHEREAS, the Report of UN Special Rapporteur on Violence Against Women Radhika Coomaraswamy and the McDougall Report on Systematic Rape, Sexual Slavery, and Slavery-Like Practices 1998 reveal that the Government of Japan during the colonial occupation of Asia and the Pacific Islands during World War II organized the subjugation and kidnapping of young women for the sole purpose of sexual servitude, known to the world as 'comfort women';

WHEREAS, Tomasa Dioso Salinog or "*Lola Masing*", who was born in Pandan, Antique on December 08, 1928 and died on April 06, 2006, was one of the comfort women during the Japanese occupation of the Philippines in World War II;

WHEREAS, documentation of *Lola Masing's* life reveals that she was in her early teens when she was abducted by Japanese soldiers and became a victim of sexual servitude;

WHEREAS, in November 1992, *Lola Masing* came out and told her story to the world and started her crusade for justice;

WHEREAS, in April 1993, *Lola Masing* together with seventeen (17) other surviving Filipino comfort women, filed a case with the Tokyo district court to demand for justice, apology and legal compensation from Japan for the abuses committed against them during the war;

WHEREAS, in December 2003, after a series of appeals, the Supreme Court of Japan dismissed the case filed by the *Filipino comfort women* with finality;

WHEREAS, *Lola Masing* was one of those who rejected the Asian Women's Fund established by the Japanese government for Filipina, Korean, Taiwanese and Dutch women survivors, and which, critics claim, conceals and hinders state responsibility to its victims;

WHEREAS, the province of Antique created the "*Lola Masing Center for Culture and Peace*", a permanent place at the Museo Antiqueño, in which dedication states "an

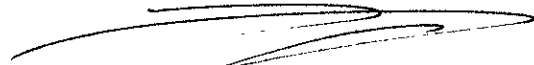
Antiqueño comfort woman who in her struggle for justice showed the world dignity despite poverty”;

WHEREAS, the life of *Lola Masing* serves as a lesson for all governments and the international community that wars bring only violence and women become the most violated human being in times of war;

WHEREAS, her courage and determination to pursue justice amidst challenges and old age are noble traits that should inspire Filipinos today and are worth emulating by future generations of our nation;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, That the Senate commends Tomasa Dioso Salinor or “Lola Masing” for her courage and unwavering determination to pursue justice for Filipino comfort women during World War II.

Adopted,



LOREN LEGARDA
Senator