

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines

Senate

Manila City

Fifteenth Congress

First Regular Session

RESOLUTION No. 19

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE TO JOIN THE COMMUNITY OF NATIONS AND PARLIAMENTS AROUND THE WORLD IN CELEBRATING THE THIRD INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DEMOCRACY ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2010, WITH THE THEME, "POLITICAL ACCOUNTABILITY: FORGING LINKS BETWEEN PARLIAMENTS AND CITIZENS"

WHEREAS, in 1997, the Inter-Parliamentary Union adopted the *Universal Declaration on Democracy* which affirms the principles, elements and exercise of as well as the universality of democracy, and urged governments and parliaments throughout the world to be guided by its content;

WHEREAS, in 2007, the United Nations declared September 15 of each year as the *International Day of Democracy* and invited all member states and organizations to commemorate

the day with meaningful activities involving the citizenry aimed at raising public awareness of its importance;

WHEREAS, September 15, 2010 marks the Third International Day of Democracy with the theme, "*Political accountability: Forging links between parliaments and citizens*";

WHEREAS, the Universal Declaration on Democracy states that public accountability is essential to democracy and entails a public right to information about the activities of government and the right to petition government and to seek redress through impartial administrative and judicial mechanisms; and that public life must be stamped by a sense of ethics and transparency;

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the provisions of our Constitution which state that public office is a public trust, and that public officers and employees must at all times be accountable to the people, the Philippines continues to be perceived as having serious problems of corruption in their bureaucracy, according to Transparency International;

WHEREAS, in his inaugural speech of 30 June 2010, President Benigno Simeon Aquino III declared the policy of good and honest governance as one of the basic pillars of his new administration as embodied in his motto, "*Kung walang corrupt, walang mahirap,*" thus calling for a transformative spirit and enjoining everyone to his crusade for good governance;

WHEREAS, to strengthen our institutions, there is need for intergovernmental efforts to confront and address the systemic problems of corruption through joint executive, congressional, and judicial reforms, as well as implement measures to achieve a culture of transparency and accountability in public service;

WHEREAS, this year's theme reaffirms the crucial role of parliaments as the voice of the people, as they represent the interests and safeguard the rights of the people through intense scrutiny of legislative proposals; inquiries into

governmental misdeeds and abuses; and enacting and revising measures to uplift the life of our citizens;

WHEREAS, this year's theme also reminds and challenges all parliaments throughout the world to continue to make their institution more open and accessible to its citizens and ensure that they are fully informed and apprised of its performance and its actions;

WHEREAS, the International Day of Democracy provides an opportune time for the Senate, as the bastion of democracy, to lead the nation, in solidarity with the global community, in inculcating to its citizens the lofty ideals and attributes of democracy and model itself as an institution with a high sense of public trust and accountability;


WHEREAS, the event is meant to inspire all Filipinos to remain vigilant in protecting our democratic institutions and to remind all public servants that they are accountable to the people: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, To express its sense in joining the community of nations and parliaments around the world in celebrating the Third International Day of Democracy on September 15, 2010, with the theme, "Political Accountability: Forging Links Between Parliaments and Citizens."

Adopted,


 JUAN PONCE ENRILE
 President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on September 15, 2010.


 EMMA LIRIO-REYES
 Secretary of the Senate
