

Republic of the Philippines  
Congress of the Philippines  
**Senate**  
Pasay City

Fourteenth Congress

First Regular Session



RESOLUTION No. 33

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE CONCERN OF THE SENATE THAT THE NUMBER OF FILIPINO CARDINALS IS GROSSLY DISPROPORTIONATE TO THE HUGE CATHOLIC POPULATION OF THE PHILIPPINES, BEING THE SECOND COUNTRY IN THE WORLD WITH THE BIGGEST NUMBER OF CATHOLICS

WHEREAS, hereunder are the Catholic population and the number of cardinals in countries with the largest number of Catholics:

Catholic Population, ranking worldwide		No. of Cardinals
1. Brazil	147 million	8
2. Philippines	73 million	3
3. U.S.A.	63 million	13
4. Italy	57 million	38
5. France	45 million	7
6. Spain	39 million	8

WHEREAS, hereunder are the Asian countries with the largest number of cardinals and their corresponding Catholic population:

Catholic Population	No. of Cardinals	
1. Philippines	73 million	3
2. India	16 million	5
3. Japan	.505 thousand	2
4. Taiwan	.305 thousand	1
5. Thailand	.273 thousand	1

WHEREAS, the Philippines is the second largest country in the world in the number of Catholics, with 73 million Catholics after Brazil. The U.S. is third with 63 million, followed by Italy with 57 million, France 45 million, and Spain 39 million;

WHEREAS, the Philippines, the second largest Catholic country, has three cardinals; the U.S., Italy, France and Spain, which have smaller Catholic populations, have more or less triple that number of cardinals;

WHEREAS, the Philippines, the only Christian country in Asia, with 73 million Catholics, has only three (3) cardinals. On the other hand, India with 16 million Catholics has five (5) cardinals, more than the Philippines; Japan with only 505,000 Catholics has two (2) cardinals; Taiwan with 305,000 Catholics has one (1) cardinal, so with Thailand with 273,000 Catholics;

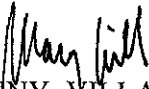
WHEREAS, a new Papal Nuncio, in the person of Archbishop Edward Joseph Adams, has just been recently appointed as the Vatican's envoy to the Philippines;

WHEREAS, it is opportune that this concern about the lopsided representation of 73 million Filipino Catholics is conveyed to the proper church authorities: Now, therefore, be it


*Resolved by the Senate,* To express, as it hereby expresses, the concern of the Senate that the number of Filipino cardinals is grossly disproportionate to the huge Catholic population of the Philippines, being the second country in the world with the biggest number of Catholics;

*Resolved, further,* That this Resolution be forwarded to His Excellency Archbishop Edward Joseph Adams, Papal Nuncio to the Philippines, and the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines.

Adopted,

  
MANNY VILLAR  
President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on November 7, 2007.

  
EMMA LIRIO REYES  
Secretary of the Senate