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Republic of the Philippines Congress of the Philippines

Senate

Pasay City

Fifteenth Congress

Second Regular Session

**RESOLUTION NO. 74** 

## RESOLUTION COMMENDING SENATOR MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO FOR HAVING BEEN ELECTED AND TOPPING THE ELECTION AS JUDGE IN THE HIGHLY POWERFUL INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT

WHEREAS, the Rome Statute provides for the creation and establishment of the International Criminal Court (ICC) to help end impunity for the perpetrators of the most serious crimes of concern to the international community, and shall be composed of eighteen (18) judges who will be elected by the Assembly of State Parties;

WHEREAS, judges of the ICC are required to be of "high moral character, impartiality and integrity";

WHEREAS, the Philippine Government nominated the candidature of Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago as Judge in the ICC for her various expertise in international humanitarian law, vast experience in criminal law and her known advocacy for the Rome Statute of the ICC;

WHEREAS, Senator Santiago fulfills the requirements and qualifications for Judges provided under the Rome Statute;

WHEREAS, a highly regarded member of the academe, Senator Santiago has the distinction of having served in all three (3) branches of government – presiding judge of the Regional Trial Court from 1983-1987; Head of the Commission on Immigration and Deportation from 1988-1989; and an incumbent Senator of the Republic of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, a holder of a doctorate degree in law at the University of Michigan as a Barbour Scholar and DeWitt Fellow, Senator Santiago is an expert in international law having served as part of the 2000 United Nations roster of eminent and highly qualified experts in international law, and that she was also the Chairperson of the Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate from 2004-2010;

WHEREAS, on December 12, 2011, Senator Santiago topped the poll's first round, effectively gaining a seat with seventy-nine (79) votes out of one hundred four (104) valid votes, an indication of the strong support from State Parties and even besting the other seventeen (17) candidates from every region vying for six (6) seats;

WHEREAS, in the history of the ICC, Senator Santiago becomes the first Filipino, first Asian and the first-ever female Judge from a developing State in Asia to join the International Criminal Court as Judge, thus giving honor to the Philippines: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, as it is hereby resolved, To commend Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago for having been elected and topping the election as Judge in the highly powerful International Criminal Court.

Adopted,

President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on December 13, 2011.

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EMMA Secretary of the Senate

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