

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines
Senate
Pasay City

Sixteenth Congress

First Regular Session

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RESOLUTION No. 12

RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING GRANDMASTER WESLEY SO FOR BRINGING HONOR AND DISTINCTION TO THE COUNTRY BY WINNING THE GOLD MEDAL IN THE MEN'S CHESS COMPETITIONS OF THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED 27TH SUMMER UNIVERSIADE (WORLD UNIVERSITY GAMES) AT THE KAZAN EQUESTRIAN COMPLEX IN KAZAN, RUSSIA, THIS JULY 2013

WHEREAS, on 17 July 2013, the 27th Summer Universiade formally closed after twelve (12) days of competition in Kazan, Russia;

WHEREAS, the Universiade, also known as the World University Games, is an international biennial sports event organized for university athletes by the *Federation Internationale du Sport Universitaire* (FISU);

WHEREAS, during the recently concluded 27th Summer Universiade, which shall be remembered as the edition with the highest number of participants since its start in 1959 in Turin, Italy, and the second biggest sports competition in the world next only to the Olympic Games, the Philippines made history by bringing home its first-ever gold medal when Chess Grandmaster Wesley So won the chess title by a triple tiebreak;

WHEREAS, chess, which debuted in the 2011 Summer Universiade in Shenzhen as an optional sport, was participated this year by veteran chess players from 46 countries;

WHEREAS, GM So outwitted former world junior champion Grandmaster Zaven Andriasian of Armenia and beat 23 grandmasters and a string of university top chess players of the world;

WHEREAS, during the tournament, GM So tied with GM Andriasian and GM Li Chao of China in the first tiebreak but emerged with a higher Buchholz and performance score, such that outright, he could have copped the gold medal and claim the first-ever gold for the Philippines;

WHEREAS, Russian officials came up, however, with a new rule to resolve the tie – the Armageddon style play-off – which would give time odds to whoever won the toss, and which GM So gallantly fought to soundly beat GM Andriasian and win the most coveted title;

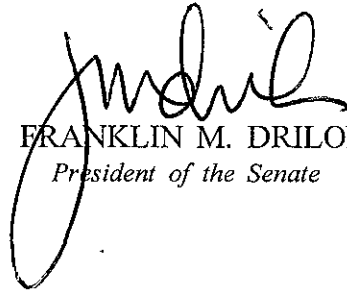
WHEREAS, GM So was invited to represent the country by the Federation of School Sports Association of the Philippines (FESSAP), headed by President David Ong and Secretary-General Graham Lim;

WHEREAS, with GM So's gold medal, the Philippines becomes one of only 40 countries to win at least one gold medal, and finished in 40th place in the 12-day competition which attracted more than 10,000 university athletes from a record of 162 countries, ahead of its Southeast Asian Games rivals Indonesia, which has only one silver, and Malaysia, which has three bronzes and other SEA countries – Vietnam, Singapore, Laos and Brunei – which failed to win medals;

WHEREAS, 19-year old GM So has brought honors to the country and hence, merits the government's acknowledgement and recognition: Now, therefore, be it


Resolved, as it is hereby resolved, That the Senate of the Philippines congratulate and commend Grandmaster Wesley So for bringing honor and distinction to the country by winning the gold medal in the men's chess competitions of the recently concluded 27th Summer Universiade at the Kazan Equestrian Complex in Kazan, Russia, this July 2013.

Adopted,



FRANKLIN M. DRILON
President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on October 14, 2013.



OSCAR G. YABES
Secretary of the Senate