

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines

Senate

Manila City

Sixteenth Congress

First Regular Session



RESOLUTION No. 7

RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING
DR. ALICIA SANTOS FOR BEING CONFERRED THE
PRESTIGIOUS *GAWAD MABINI* WITH THE RANK
OF *DAKILANG KASUGO* PRESIDENTIAL AWARD

WHEREAS, the *Gawad Mabini* Award, created by virtue of Presidential Decree No. 490, is "conferred by the President of the Philippines on personnel of the Department of Foreign Affairs, both in the Home Office and in the Foreign Service, as well as on other Filipinos who have rendered distinguished service or promoted the interests of the Republic of the Philippines at home and abroad";

WHEREAS, the *Gawad Mabini* Award has three ranks namely: *Dakilang Kamanong*, *Dakilang Kasugo* and *Kasugo*;

WHEREAS, *Dakilang Kasugo* is "awarded to officers from Career Minister to Foreign Service Officer Class IV and to personnel of other government agencies serving as attachés in Foreign Service establishments who must have been recommended by the Chief of Mission or the Principal Officer of the post where they have served, as the case may be, or

by the Secretary of Foreign Affairs, in the case of officers in the Home Office”;

WHEREAS, Section 3 of Presidential Decree No. 490 provides that “Before any Philippine government official or employee may be entitled to the *Dakilang Kasugo* or *Kasugo* he must have rendered distinguished service, or helped promote the interests and prestige of the Philippines abroad, and must have served at least a minimum of four years in the Department of Foreign Affairs, provided that such prescribed period shall not apply in extraordinary circumstances, such as in display of acts of heroism or loyal performance of responsibility beyond the call of duty, as decided by the President upon recommendation of the Secretary of Foreign Affairs”;

WHEREAS, in ceremonies in Manila last July 31, during the 115th Foundation Day of the Department of Foreign Affairs and the 149th birth anniversary of Apolinario Mabini, selected foreign service personnel were lauded for their exceptional service;

WHEREAS, Dr. Alicia Santos, our labor attaché in the Philippine Embassy in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, was conferred the *Gawad Mabini* with the rank of *Dakilang Kasugo* based on the recommendation of Philippine Ambassador to Malaysia Jose Eduardo E. Malaya III;

WHEREAS, Dr. Santos has been actively organizing events and zealously participating in skills training, education, and financial literacy programs for the Filipino community through the Filipino Workers Resource Center (FWRC);

WHEREAS, a highlight of Dr. Santos' exemplary work with the Filipino community in Malaysia is her initiative to unify the organizations under one umbrella organization called the Federation of Filipino Associations in Malaysia (FFAM) which she successfully endeavored to be accredited by the Malaysian Registry of Societies in August last year;

WHEREAS, composed of around 35 Filipino community organizations, the FFAM served as the embassy's conduit and partner in implementing its activities and programs;

WHEREAS, Dr. Santos' commitment to public service started in 1977 when she served as an administrative officer at the National Manpower and Youth Council (now Technical Education and Skills Development Authority);

WHEREAS, a true career official with more than three decades of government service, she was regional director of the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) before she

became labor attaché in various countries including South Korea, Lebanon, Syria and Italy;

WHEREAS, Dr. Santos' dedication to service is backed by strong educational foundation: Master's Degree in Public Policy and Program Administration from the University of the Philippines; a Master of Arts in English Literature from the University of Santo Tomas; and Doctor of Humanities, *honoris causa*, from the University of Regina Carmeli;

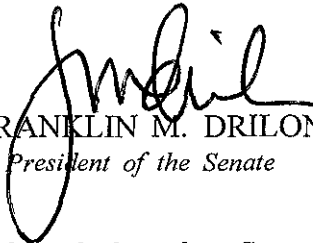
WHEREAS, Dr. Santos, who is now in the roster of respected and accomplished *Gawad Mabini* awardees, undeniably deserves the admiration and recognition of her fellow Filipinos, both in the country and abroad;

WHEREAS, an epitome of loyalty and devotion to the people and the country she serves, the recognition given to Dr. Santos renews the call for public service with integrity, honesty, responsibility and dedication;

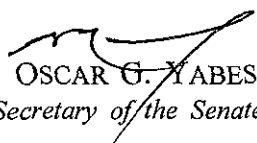
WHEREAS, amidst various issues and controversies alarming our line of foreign service, *Gawad Mabini* and Dr. Santos brings inspiration, hope and fervor to our public servants to strengthen their cause for our nation's progress and genuine development: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, as it is hereby resolved, That the Senate congratulate and commend Dr. Alicia Santos for being conferred the prestigious Gawad Mabini with the rank of, Dakilang Kasugo Presidential Award.

Adopted,


FRANKLIN M. DRILON
President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on September 10, 2013.


OSCAR G. YABES
Secretary of the Senate