

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines
Senate
Pasay City

Sixteenth Congress

Third Regular Session



RESOLUTION No. 96

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCE OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES ON THE DEMISE OF THE HONORABLE AGAPITO "BUTZ" AQUINO, FORMER SENATOR (1987-1995) AND MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (1998-2007)

WHEREAS, the Honorable Agapito "Butz" Aquino, a distinguished member of this august Chamber (1987-1995) and the House of Representatives (1998-2007), a successful entrepreneur, a civic leader, and a freedom fighter who was one of the leaders in the struggle for the restoration of democracy in the country, passed away on August 17, 2015;

WHEREAS, although coming from a family of politicians, he never wanted to join politics as he firmly believed that politics was a "ballgame of the rich", but when his brother,

former Senator Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino was assassinated in 1983, he felt the need to seek justice and continue what his brother had died for, thus, he was instrumental in organizing a series of consciousness-raising organizations, namely: the August Twenty-One Movement (ATOM), the Kongreso ng Mamamayang Pilipino (KOMPIL), the Filipino Social Democratic Movement (FSDM), and Bansang Nagkakaisa sa Diwa at Layunin (BANDILA);

WHEREAS, as a street parliamentarian, he played a prominent role in the 1986 People Power Revolution as he was the first figure to publicly exhort the people to gather and march toward the military camps, and rally their forces together against the dictatorship, for which he was called the "Pillar of Anti-Dictatorship Movement";

WHEREAS, after the restoration of democracy, he took the most decisive step in his political career when he ran for and won in the 1987 senatorial elections;

WHEREAS, during his stint in the Senate, he initiated and supported measures he believed could help make a difference in the national campaign against mass poverty, authoring several landmark pieces of legislation, notably, the "Magna Carta for Small Farmers", the "Seed Act", the "Cooperative Code of the Philippines", and the law that created the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA);

WHEREAS, Senator Butz Aquino was among the twelve (12) senators whose historic vote against the extension of the RP-US Bases Treaty in 1991 finally ended the presence of foreign military bases on Philippine soil;

WHEREAS, he was elected congressman of the 2nd District of Makati City for three (3) consecutive terms during which he became the Deputy Speaker for Luzon, Minority Floor Leader, and Chairman of the House Committee on Cooperatives Development;

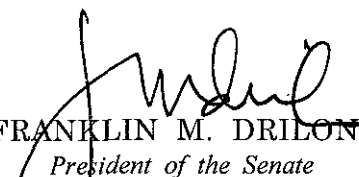
WHEREAS, he was a recipient of various awards and recognitions such as the Most Outstanding Alumnus Award (San Beda College), Most Outstanding Alumnus Award (Mapua Institute of Technology), Most Outstanding Jaycee Senator, and several Cooperative Awards;

WHEREAS, his death is truly a great loss not only to his bereaved family but also to the nation he had fully served with his own personal style, vision and concrete action program towards a better life for the impoverished masses, always guided by the four principles of "Live Simply, Seek Justice, Be Humble, Love Always": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, To express, as it hereby expresses, its profound sympathy and sincere condolence on the demise of the Honorable Agapito "Butz" Aquino, former Senator (1987-1995) and Member of the House of Representatives (1998-2007).


Resolved, further, That a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the bereaved family of the former Senator.

Adopted,



FRANKLIN M. DRILON
President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on August 18, 2015.



OSCAR G. YABES
Secretary of the Senate

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