

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines

Senate

Manila City

Eighteenth Congress

Third Regular Session



RESOLUTION No. 123

RESOLUTION HONORING THE LATE FORMER SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT SECRETARY CORAZON "DINKY" JULIANO-SOLIMAN FOR HER INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE FIELD OF SOCIAL WORK AND THE COUNTRY AS A DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVANT EXEMPLIFIED BY HER LIFELONG CRUSADE TO UPLIFT THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF THE POOREST AND MOST VULNERABLE SECTORS OF SOCIETY

WHEREAS, the Philippine Senate has always honored and paid its respects to remarkable Filipinos for their outstanding legacy and service to the people;

WHEREAS, on September 19, 2021, her family announced that former Social Welfare and Development Secretary and longtime social worker Corazon "Dinky" Juliano-Soliman had passed away at the age of 68 due to complications from renal and heart failure;

WHEREAS, Secretary Dinky, who hailed from Tarlac, obtained her bachelor's degree and graduate degree in social work from the University of the Philippines-Diliman, and another master's degree in public administration at the Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University;

WHEREAS, she spent decades in social work and activism, including organizing and training grassroots organizations of peasants and the urban poor across the country. Her skills in participatory methods, capacity building and creative approaches to problems have benefited the marginalized, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and the government;

WHEREAS, the public has known her signature single-streaked hair color, which Secretary Dinky attributes to the causes she fights for and a symbol of "good vibes". She made a name for herself as a civil society leader, a reformist in the field of social welfare where programs are anchored on evidence-based policy making, planning, and evaluation, and a crusader against corruption in government;

WHEREAS, Secretary Dinky first headed the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) during the administration of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo. However, she later resigned, along with other Cabinet officials and heads of agencies collectively known as the "Hyatt 10," when President Arroyo was accused of fraud in the 2004 presidential elections or the "Hello, Garci" scandal in July 2005;

WHEREAS, in her four years at the DSWD during President Arroyo's term, Secretary Dinky launched the *Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan*-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services (KALAHI-CIDDS), a poverty alleviation program which empowered barangays and communities in target municipalities;

WHEREAS, in 2010, Secretary Dinky was appointed again as the DSWD Secretary of then-President Benigno S. Aquino III and headed the Human Development and Poverty Reduction Cabinet Cluster;

WHEREAS, as DSWD Secretary, Secretary Dinky steered the government's flagship poverty alleviation program, the *Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program* (4Ps), which was initiated by the Arroyo administration but was massively expanded and further developed under the Aquino administration. Likewise, Secretary Dinky accelerated other social welfare programs such as the Sustainable Livelihood Program (SLP), and the *Kapit-Bisig Laban sa Kahirapan-Comprehensive and Integrated Delivery of Social Services-National Community-Driven Development Program* (KC-NCDDP). She also helped lead the disaster response and massive rehabilitation efforts in the aftermath of Super Typhoon Yolanda (Haiyan) that devastated Eastern Visayas;

WHEREAS, Secretary Dinky has also been recognized on the international stage for her exemplary public service. In 2015, she received an award for leadership in social accountability from the Global Partnership for Social Accountability (GPSA). She was among those who were recognized by the World Bank for "promoting social accountability as a means to eradicate poverty and promote inclusive growth" in their countries;

WHEREAS, during her stint as Social Welfare Secretary, the 4Ps and KC-NCDDP programs were commended and cited as among the best practices in social welfare programs by the World Bank and Asian Development Bank;

WHEREAS, colleagues have described Secretary Dinky as indefatigable and consistent, despite the challenges of her work and even at the risk of her own health. While her stint in government was not without criticism, people who closely worked with her attested that her efforts were deeply rooted in a commitment to uplifting the poor as a "social worker by heart";

WHEREAS, Secretary Dinky left nothing materially but so much in the respectful affection of all who worked, dreamed and fought with her in various causes and advocacies. Her

passing ends a chapter in the country's civil society sector. Her untimely death as an exemplary public servant and social worker, the first responder on the ground and the last person to leave the disaster-stricken area, is a great loss to the Filipino people and the nation as well, particularly in this time of crisis and upheaval;

WHEREAS, Secretary Dinky's legacy will go down in Filipino history as that of a champion of social justice and democracy. Her passionate love and steadfast commitment to serve the poorest and most marginalized of Filipinos and improve their quality of life through meaningful social reforms should serve as a benchmark for any aspiring public servant;

WHEREAS, it is only proper to recognize Secretary Dinky's contributions to public service and honor her for her exemplary work, dedication, and commitment towards combatting poverty and inequality in Philippine society: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate, To honor the late former Social Welfare and Development Secretary Corazon "Dinky" Juliano-Soliman for her invaluable contributions to the field of social work and the country as a distinguished public servant exemplified by her lifelong crusade to uplift the quality of life of the poorest and most vulnerable sectors of society.

Adopted,


VICENTE C. SOTTO III
President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on September 22, 2021.


MYRA MARIE D. VILLARICA

Secretary of the Senate
Myra Marie D. Villarica