P. S. Res. Nos. 236, 239, 241, 244, 248, 250 and 251

Republic of the Philippines Congress of the Philippines

## Senate

Pasay City

Fighteenth Congress

First Regular Session

## Resolution No. 26

RESOLUTION COMMENDING SENATOR JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI FOR LEADING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL ARNIS TEAM TO RESOUNDING VICTORY IN THE 30<sup>TH</sup> SOUTHEAST ASIAN GAMES, WHERE THE TEAM TOOK FOURTEEN GOLD MEDALS, FOUR SILVER MEDALS, AND TWO BRONZE MEDALS, AND THEREBY ENGAGING INTEREST AND APPRECIATION FOR THE SPORT AMONG PHILIPPINE AND INTERNATIONAL AUDIENCES ALIKE

WHEREAS, in 2009, Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri spearheaded the passage of Republic Act No. 9850, or "The Act Declaring Arnis as the National Martial Art and Sport of the Philippines", in order to promote the sport among our people and enjoin appreciation and engagement, especially among our youth; WHEREAS, in line with his efforts to strengthen the practice of arnis and unify its many practitioners across the nation, Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri founded the Philippine Eskrima Kali Arnis Federation (PEKAF) in 2017, during which time he was also installed as chairman and president of the Federation;

WHEREAS, in early 2019, PEKAF was declared the National Sports Association for Arnis by the Philippine Olympic Committee, making it the official sport body for arnis in the country;

WHEREAS, as chairman and president of PEKAF, Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri has offered invaluable support to arnisadors across the nation, and has hosted regional competitions and training camps to push our arnisadors to excellence in preparation for international competitions;

WHEREAS, arnis, which was last featured in the Southeast Asian Games (SEA Games) as a demonstration sport in 2005, has finally been recognized as a regular sport for the 2019 SEA Games, with competitors from the Cambodia, Myanmar, Vietnam and the Philippines;

WHEREAS, Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri, himself a gold medalist in the Arnis World Championship of the World Eskrima Kali Arnis Federation in 1989, has been steadfast in his support of the Philippine National Arnis Team throughout their preparation for the 30<sup>th</sup> SEA Games, and during the event itself, personally overseeing the events and seeing the needs of the team;

WHEREAS, the Philippine National Arnis Team exceeded expectations and bagged fourteen gold medals, four silver medals, and two bronze medals across the live stick, distaff, padded stick, and Anyo categories;

WHEREAS, the performance of the Philippine National Arnis Team has been a success not only in its bountiful harvest of medals, but also in its effectiveness in inspiring appreciation and interest in arnis, among Philippine and international audiences alike: Now, therefore, be it Resolved, as it is hereby resolved, That the Senate of the Philippines commends Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri for leading the Philippine National Arnis Team to resounding victory in the  $30^{\text{th}}$  Southeast Asian Games, where the team took fourteen gold medals, four silver medals, and two bronze medals, and thereby engaging interest and appreciation for the sport among Philippine and international audiences alike.

Adopted,

mulut

VICENTE C SOTTO III President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on December 9, 2019.

Ju hilder .

MYRA MARIE D. VILLARICA Secretary of the Senate

0