P. S. Res. Nos. 630 and 632

Republic of the Philippines Congress of the Philippines

Senate

Pasay City

Fighteenth Congress

Second Regular Session

Resolution No. 84

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES ON THE DEATH OF FORMER SENATOR VICTOR S. ZIGA

WHEREAS, the Honorable Victor S. Ziga, former Senator (1987-1992), former Assemblyman (1984-1986), former Minister of General Services (1986), and former Governor of Albay (1995), passed away on January 31, 2021, at the age of 75;

WHEREAS, he finished his education at the Ateneo de Naga (high school), Ateneo de Manila University (Bachelor of Arts), University of California in Los Angeles (Degree in Political Science and Psychology), and University of Santo Tomas (Bachelor of Laws), and passed the bar in 1975;

WHEREAS, he rose to national prominence when he won in the 1984 Batasang Pambansa elections at the young age of 39 despite running in the opposition slate in his home province of Albay; WHEREAS, as an Assemblyman, he introduced proposed measures to establish the National Rehabilitation Center for drug dependents, require secondary schools to teach the pernicious effects of drug addiction and abuse, and increase the minimum basic monthly salaries of public school teachers, among others;

WHEREAS, he was plucked out of the Aquino Cabinet for the Administration's Senatorial slate and elected Senator in 1987. He served as Chairman of the Committee on Public Works and Highways, as Vice-Chairman of the Committees on Agriculture and Food, Public Services, and Tourism; member of 12 other committees; member of the Commission on Appointments; and member of the Senate Electoral Tribunal;

WHEREAS, as Senator, he pushed, among others, the passage of important measures such as RA 6728 which provided government assistance to students and teachers in private educational institutions; RA 6948 which standardized and upgraded the benefits of military veterans and their dependents; RA 6957 or the "Build-Operate-Transfer Law"; RA 7432 which granted benefits and special privileges to senior citizens; and, supported RA 7160 or the "Local Government Code of 1991" and RA 7395 or the "Magna Carta of Public Health Workers";

WHEREAS, he authored and co-authored 295 bills and resolutions, the most notable of which were the proposed measure to require all primary and secondary schools to integrate in their curriculum the teaching of the dangers and evil effects of drug dependency, drug addiction and drug abuse and the bill which seeks to prohibit the manufacture, distribution and sale of cigars and cigarettes without the warning, "Smoking is dangerous to your health" printed on their labels, packs, cartons or packages;

WHEREAS, exhibiting moral courage and uncompromising ethical commitment to honesty in government and for the environment, he publicly denounced graft and corruption in all levels of government and called out the inability of the then administration to curb pollution; WHEREAS, on September 16, 1991, he was among twelve (12) Senators, now known as the Magnificent 12, who voted against the proposed "Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation and Security between the Republic of the Philippines and the United States of America", ending the presence of foreign military bases and installations in the country;

WHEREAS, even after his retirement from politics, he continued to serve his fellow Filipinos who have less in life by associating and involving himself in typhoon relief operations and civic organizations such as the free Medical Eye Specialist Mission and the Medical Mission of the Philippine General Hospital;

WHEREAS, the passing away of a great and dedicated public servant, who had established standards of excellence in and devotion to public service, is a great loss to the nation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the Philippines, To express, as it hereby expresses, its profound sympathy and sincere condolences on the death of former Senator Victor S. Ziga.

Resolved, further, That a copy of this Resolution be furnished the bereaved family of the late Senator Victor S. Ziga.

Adopted,

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VICENTE C. SOTTO III President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 1, 2021.

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MYRA MARIE D. VILLARICA Secretary of the Senate