

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines

Senate

Manila City

Eighteenth Congress

Second Regular Session



RESOLUTION NO. 85

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND
SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF
THE SENATE ON THE DEATH OF FORMER
SENATOR JOHN HENRY "SONNY" RENNER
OSMEÑA

WHEREAS, the Honorable John Henry Renner "Sonny" Osmeña, a dedicated public servant and an advocate of sincere, competent and responsive governance, passed away on February 2, 2021 at the age of 86;

WHEREAS, he served as Senator for four terms (1971-1972; 1987-1992; 1992-1995; 1998-2004); member of the House of Representatives, representing the 2nd District of

Cebu (1969-1971) and the 3rd District of Cebu (1995-1998); Mayor of Toledo City, Cebu (2013-2019); OIC Mayor of Cebu City (1986); Vice-Mayor of Cebu City, Cebu (1965-1968); and City Councilor of Cebu (1963-1965);

WHEREAS, he finished his Mechanical Engineering degree from the University of San Carlos, Public Administration degree from the University of the Philippines, and Social and Community Development Course from the International Social Development Institution in Holland;

WHEREAS, coming from a political lineage of the Osmeña clan of Cebu, the grandson of the late President Sergio Osmeña, and the nephew of the late Senator Sergio "Serging" Osmeña, Jr., his interest in public service started when he was elected as President of the Student Council Association of the Philippines in 1961 while being a student at the University of San Carlos in Cebu;

WHEREAS, in 1969, he was elected Member of the House of Representatives and for his outstanding performance as Congressmen, he was chosen as one of the 1970 "Ten Outstanding Young Men of the Philippines";

WHEREAS, in 1971, he was elected Senator but his term was cut short upon the declaration of Martial Law in 1972 and, thereafter, he went on exile to the United States of America;

WHEREAS, he returned to the Philippines in 1983 and, after helping in the restoration of democracy, he participated and won in the inaugural senatorial elections under the 1987 Constitution;

WHEREAS, as a Senator, he served as Senate President Pro Tempore (1996-2000) and as Chairman of the Committees on Finance, Energy, and Government Corporation and Public Enterprises;

WHEREAS, throughout his productive career as a legislator, the hardworking Chairman of the Committee on Energy had consistently advocated for and authored a number of development-oriented and landmark legislations that made a direct impact on the lives of million Filipinos, particularly laws on energy, telecommunication and postal services, such as: the Municipal Telephone Act (RA 6849), the Mini-Hydro Incentive Act (RA 7156); the Public Telecommunications Act of 1995 (RA 7925); the Postal Service Act of 1992 (RA 7354); the Amended Build-to-Operate Act (RA 7718); the Department of Energy Act of 1992 (RA 7638), the Electric Power Crisis Act of 1993 (RA 7648); and the Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001 (RA 9163), among others;

WHEREAS, Senator Osmeña earned the monicker "Lone Ranger" for his independent-mindedness and firm stand on certain national issues despite the fact that his ideas may clash with what the majority believes in;

WHEREAS, a staunch advocate against graft and corruption in the government, he founded and organized the "Samahan Laban Sa Graft" or "SALAG", an active nationwide multi-sectoral voluntary people organization committed to apply social pressure against grafters in the government, and spearheaded the Senate investigation of many irregular and anomalous government transactions, including the so-called Petroskam and those involving the Philippine Airlines and Philippine Ports Authority that led to the resignation of corrupt government officials;

WHEREAS, the demise of a great legislator and esteemed public servant, who had served as Senator both under the 1935 and 1987 Constitutions, is a great loss not only to his bereaved family but to the nation as well: 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 John Henry "Sonny" Renner Osmeña.

Resolved, further, That a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the bereaved family of the late Senator John Henry "Sonny" Renner Osmeña.

Adopted,



VICENTE C. SOTTO III

President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on February 3, 2021.



MYRA MARIE D. VILLARICA

Secretary of the Senate