

P. S. Res. No. 127, 129, 130,  
131, 132, 135, 137 and 140

Republic of the Philippines  
Congress of the Philippines

Senate

Manila City

Nineteenth Congress

First Regular Session

RESOLUTION No. 10

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE DEEPEST SYMPATHY  
AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE  
OF THE PHILIPPINES ON THE DEATH OF A  
SPORTS LEGEND AND "ASIA'S FASTEST WOMAN"  
LYDIA DE VEGA

WHEREAS, Lydia de Vega, a renowned Filipina track and field athlete, succumbed to cancer on the 10th of August 2022 at the age of 57;

WHEREAS, Lydia, fondly called "Diay", was known as Asia's sprint queen and an athlete par excellence – a four-time Asian champion, two-time Asian Games gold medalist, and nine-time Southeast Asian Games (SEA Games) gold medalist;

WHEREAS, Lydia's rise to athletic renown transpired in the 1980s under the "Gintong Alay" program. She started

gaining fame when she bagged gold in the 200-meter and 400-meter events of the 1981 SEA Games held in Manila;

WHEREAS, Lydia became the first Filipina and Asian to win back-to-back gold medals for the 100-meter dash at the 1982 New Delhi and 1986 Seoul Asian Games. She represented the Philippines twice in the Olympics: 1984 Los Angeles and 1988 Seoul Olympics;

WHEREAS, Lydia fortified herself as the best in the track and field arena in Asia and consistently won gold in the 100-meter events at the 1987, 1991, and 1993 SEA Games and the 200-meter events in 1981, 1983, 1987, and 1993 SEA Games. Truly the best in the field, she held the 100-meter and 200-meter national records for over three decades;

WHEREAS, at the height of Lydia's stellar career, she took a break from the limelight in the athletics scene between 1989 to 1991 to complete her degree and raise her family. She eventually retired from competing at the track and field event after the 1994 Manila-Fujian Games where she won gold in the 100-meter dash;

WHEREAS, like a true legend, Lydia continued her legacy even after retirement as she shone a light on the youth she inspired. Even after her competitions, she continued her advocacy and public life by coaching young athletes, mostly children in Grades 3 to 6, and kept training differently-abled athletes in the latter years. It was a testament to her dedication to her craft and her magnanimity in the field;

WHEREAS, Lydia's sportsmanship and athletic prowess was acclaimed by the Philippines Sports Association composed of the country's sportswriters, who elected her as "Athlete of the Year" in 1981, 1986, and 1987. She was also inducted to the "Hall of Fame" alongside other prominent athletes;

WHEREAS, Lydia had been battling cancer but exemplified strength even in adversity when she made one of her last major public appearances as one of the of the country's flag bearers during the 2019 SEA Games hosted by the country;

WHEREAS, Lydia was a true Asian track and field legend who excellently personified the admirable traits of a Filipina – passionate, determined, disciplined, and stunningly graceful in all her endeavors;

WHEREAS, as the whole nation mourns the loss of a great athlete whose indelible mark will forever be etched in history, we likewise honor her life and legacy which brought pride and honor to the country, and inspired a generation of athletes: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved, as it is hereby resolved,* To express the deepest sympathy and sincere condolences of the Senate of the Philippines on the death of a sports legend and “Asia’s Fastest Woman” Lydia de Vega;

*Resolved, further,* that a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the bereaved family of the late Lydia de Vega.


Adopted,



JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

*President of the Senate*

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on August 15, 2022.



RENATO N. BANTUG Jr.  
*Secretary of the Senate*