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SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 251

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Introduced By
SENATOR VICENTE C. SOTTO III

**A RESOLUTION GRANTING SENATOR EDGARDO J. ANGARA,
PERMISSION TO RECEIVE THE 2010 *PREMIO CASA ASIA* FOR
HIS EXCEPTIONAL CONTRIBUTION TOWARDS PROMOTING
KNOWLEDGE, UNDERSTANDING AND DIALOGUE BETWEEN
SPAIN AND THE PHILIPPINES**

WHEREAS, *Casa Asia* is a cultural arm of the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs, born in 2001 with the objective of promoting and carrying out projects and activities that contribute towards greater mutual awareness, stronger relations between Spain and Asia-Pacific countries, particularly in institutional, economic, academic and cultural spheres;

WHEREAS, *Casa Asia* bestows the yearly *Premio Casa Asia* which acknowledges individuals and institutions from Spain and Asia Pacific who have made exceptional contribution towards promoting knowledge, understanding and dialogue among the societies of Asia and Spain;

WHEREAS, Senator Edgardo J. Angara has reawakened Philippine-Spanish relations by authoring RA 9187 "An Act Declaring June 30 of the Year as Philippine Spanish Friendship Day" to commemorate the historical and cultural ties between Spain and the Philippines;

WHEREAS, since its first celebration in 2003, the Philippine-Spanish Friendship Day has given birth to major initiatives in the area of legislation, culture, education, language, sports;

WHEREAS, Senator Angara with Spanish Ambassador Luis Arias and Mexican Ambassador Tomas Calvillo Unna initiated the celebration of *Dia del Galeon* on October 8 of every year to commemorate the historic and cultural ties forged by the Manila-Acapulco Galleon trade among the continents of Asia, Latin America and Europe;

WHEREAS, Senator Angara has led the signing of a landmark cooperation agreement between the Philippine Senate and the Spanish Senate. Under it, parliamentary exchanges shall be organized to discuss

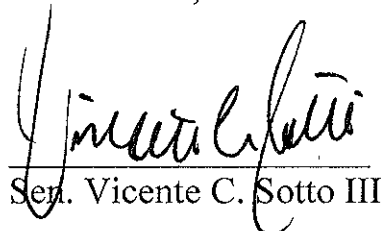
poverty alleviation, the promotion of sports, arts and culture and tourism and infrastructure as vectors for economic development;

WHEREAS, he is also a regular keynote speaker and Philippine representative to the Tribuna España-Filipinas, an annual dialogue that serves as a platform for discussion on matters of mutual interest such as investment, tourism, trade, culture and education;

WHEREAS, *Casa Asia* recognizes Senator Angara's initiative and enterprise at strengthening Philippine-Spanish relations and has elected him to receive the prestigious *Premio Casa Asia* for this year 2010, making him the first Southeast Asian to receive that distinct honor;

WHEREAS, under the 1987 Philippine Constitution, Article IX-B, §8, par.(1), it provides that: "No elective or appointive public officer or employee shall receive additional, double, or indirect compensation, unless specifically authorized by law nor accept without the consent of the Congress, any present, emolument, office or title of any kind from any foreign government.";

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that, the Senate of the Philippines grants Senator Edgardo J. Angara permission to receive the 2010 *Premio Casa Asia* for his exceptional contribution towards promoting knowledge, understanding and dialogue between Spain and Philippines, on November 2, 2010 in Madrid.


Sen. Vicente C. Sotto III

Adopted,