

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session

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SENATE P.S. Res. No. <u>277</u> RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE TO HAIL THE RELEASE OF DAW AUNG SAN SUU KYI FROM DETENTION AS A TRIUMPH FOR DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

WHEREAS, the Philippines is a signatory to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which affirms the right of everyone to life;

WHEREAS, the Philippines, as a signatory to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, firmly adheres to the long-established principle that the "recognition of the inherent dignity and of the equal and inalienable rights of all members of the human family is the foundation of freedom, justice, and peace in the world";

WHEREAS, the Philippines and the rest of the community of nations that embrace the fundamental principles of human rights and freedom, recognize the right of every person "to take part in the government of his country, directly or through freely chosen representatives," and to "equal access to public service";

WHEREAS, the such fundamental principles are given life in our own way of life as a nation, guaranteed by no less than our Constitution which provides adherence to a State policy that "values the dignity of every human person and guarantees full respect for human rights";

WHEREAS, the Philippines echoes such principles in the global and regional arena, including in the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), where it has continuously led calls for Myanmar to "expedite a peaceful transition to democratic rule";

WHEREAS, such peaceful transition, as called for by the international community, can be best exemplified by the release of Aung San Suu Kyi from political detention, who was placed on house arrest since 1989, following her resolute call for a democratic government in Myanmar as Secretary-General of the party National League for Democracy (NLD);

WHEREAS, for her steadfast commitment to the ideals of freedom, democracy and human rights, she was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 1991, as well as the Rafto Human Rights Prize and the Sakharov Prize for Freedom of Thought in 1990 and the Jawaharlal Nehru Award for International Understanding by the Government of India in 1992;

WHEREAS, the Senate has a mandate from the Filipino people to translate fundamental human rights policies and principles enshrined in the Philippine Constitution and the International Bill of Rights into laws and policies;

WHEREAS, the Senate recognizes the value of international cooperation and the adoption of shared principles in the promotion of universal respect for and observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to express the sense of the Senate, applauding the release of Daw Aung San Suu Kyi from detention by the government of Myanmar;

FURTHER RECOGNIZING her release as triumph for democracy and human rights; and

FINALLY CONVEYING the aspirations of the Philippine Senate for Myanmar's full and peaceful transition to democratic rule.

Adopted,

FOREN LEGARDA
Senator

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