OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session

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SENATE P.S. Res. No. 668

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Read of the

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING SENATOR MIRIAM PALMA DEFENSOR-SANTIAGO FOR BEING ELECTED JUDGE OF THE COUR PÉNALE INTERNATIONALE OR THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT (ICC) DURING THE TENTH SESSION OF THE ASSEMBLY OF STATE PARTIES HELD AT THE UNITED NATIONS HEADQUARTERS IN NEW YORK CITY, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA ON 12 DECEMBER 2011.

WHEREAS, the Philippine Senate has in several occasions paid tribute to outstanding Filipinos for bringing home pride and glory to the country;

WHEREAS, the distinguished Senator Miriam Palma Defensor-Santiago was elected Judge among 19 candidates seeking six vacant seats in the *Cour pénale internationale* or The International Criminal Court (ICC) in the United Nations Headquarters in New York City, United States of America on 12 December 2011;

WHEREAS, the ICC is the first permanent, treaty based, international criminal court established to help end impunity for the perpetrators of the most serious crimes of concern to the international community such as genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes;

WHEREAS, presently, there are 120 states that are states parties to the Statute of the Court, including all South American nations, nearly all of Europe and about half the countries in Africa;

WHEREAS, Senator Miriam Palma Defensor-Santiago, a former trial court judge and an expert in both international and immigration law made it in the first round of voting with 79 votes, which are more than enough to secure her a seat as one of 18 Judges in the ICC;

WHEREAS, she graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science degree, magna cum laude, from the University of the Philippines-Visayas with a near perfect average grade of 1.1 and took up law at the University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City where she graduated cum laude and was the class Valedictorian;

WHEREAS, she became the first female editor of the student newspaper, The Philippine Collegian and was twice made ROTC Muse.

WHEREAS, she was also a recipient of various prestigious awards such as the Ten Outstanding Professionals of the Philippine Junior Chamber of Commerce given in 1986, the Laureate of the Asian Nobel Prize, known as the Ramon Magsaysay Award for Government Service in 1988, she was also ranked among The 100 Most Powerful Women in the World by the Australian Women's Magazine in 1996, hailed as one of Ten Womanity Awardees by The Female Network in 2010 and named as one of the TopTwenty Most Influential Filipinas of 2010 by Google.com;

WHEREAS, Senator Defensor-Santiago's election to the The International Criminal Court deserves our deepest appreciation and profound respect for the honor and recognition she has brought to our country.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate to congratulate and commend Senator Miriam Palma Defensor-Santiago for being elected Judge of the Cour pénale internationale or The International Criminal Court (ICC) during the tenth session of The Assembly of State Parties held at The United Nations Headquarters in New York City, United States of America on 12 December 2011.

Adopted,

Manuel "Lito" M. La

Senator