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S E N A T E  
Senate Resolution No. 107

RECORDED BY: js

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Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

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RESOLUTION

COMMENDING THE QUAI BRANLY MUSEUM (MUSÉE DU QUAI BRANLY) IN PARIS, FRANCE, THE PHILIPPINE EMBASSY IN PARIS, AND PHILIPPINE CULTURAL AGENCIES FOR THE SUCCESSFUL MOUNTING OF A GRAND EXHIBITION ON PHILIPPINE PRE-COLONIAL ART ENTITLED, "PHILIPPINES: AN ARCHIPELAGO OF EXCHANGE," AS PART OF BROADER EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN BILATERAL RELATIONS BETWEEN THE PHILIPPINES AND FRANCE IN THE AREA OF CULTURE AND THE ARTS

**WHEREAS**, Article XIV, Section 15 of the Constitution provides that the State shall conserve, promote and popularize the nation's historical and cultural heritage and resources, as well as its artistic creations;

**WHEREAS**, the Republic of France and the Republic of the Philippines have had robust diplomatic relations for more than 65 years since the signing of a Treaty of Amity and Friendship between the two countries on 26 June 1947;

**WHEREAS**, on 19 to 21 October 2012, together with a high-level delegation of ministers, parliamentarians and representatives of the business sector, French Prime Minister Jean-Marc Ayrault conducted a three-day official visit in the Philippines as part of the 65<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration of Franco-Philippine diplomatic relations;

**WHEREAS**, apart from strengthening economic cooperation between the two countries through the signing of commercial agreements for the aeronautics and automotive industries, a highlight of the official visit was the signing of a bilateral agreement for the loan of Philippine artifacts to the Quai Branly Museum in time for the mounting of the first comprehensive exhibition in Europe on Philippine pre-colonial art and artifacts;

**WHEREAS**, with its collection of more than 400,000 objects, 700,000 photographs, 3,500 artworks, and 10,000 musical instruments on permanent display and an average number of visitors reaching 1.4 million every year, the Quai Branly Museum is known as the premier museum in France on indigenous art and culture from Africa, Asia, Oceania and the Americas;

**WHEREAS**, from 9 April until 14 July 2013, the Quai Branly Museum hosted the Grand Exhibition entitled "Philippines—An Archipelago of Exchange" (Philippines: Archipel des Échanges) which drew from both private and public collections of Philippine pre-colonial artwork from the Philippines, Europe and the United States;

**WHEREAS**, with the assistance of Filipino anthropologists and in cooperation with partners from the Philippines namely the National Museum, Ayala Museum, and the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas through its Metropolitan Museum, the grand exhibition was organized into three sections: the traditional works of the mountains and valleys of the Highlands of the north, the textiles, costumes and ornaments of the warrior, and the influence of the maritime network on the items produced on the coasts and in the southern archipelagos;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine Embassy in Paris played a vital role in ensuring a strong Filipino presence from government and cultural representatives at the exhibition's opening and throughout its run;

**WHEREAS**, by seeking to foster an understanding of Philippine rich pre-colonial trade and cultural heritage, this exhibition emphasizes the important role played by history to create a unique and highly diverse indigenous culture which is part of the Filipino identity;

**WHEREAS**, this successful collaboration recognizes that cultural diplomacy should be given importance as it seeks to foster respect and understanding among countries of different culture and histories;

**WHEREAS**, it is incumbent upon Congress to ensure continuous efforts to promote cultural exchange between the Philippines and other friendly nations;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved, to commend the Quai Branly Museum (Musée du Quai Branly) in Paris, France, the Philippine Embassy in Paris, and Philippine cultural agencies for the successful mounting of a grand exhibition on Philippine pre-colonial art entitled, "Philippines: An Archipelago of Exchange," as part of broader efforts to strengthen bilateral relations between the Philippines and France in the area of culture and the arts.

Adopted,

  
**LOREN LEGARDA**  
Senator