

TWELFTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF THE PHILIPPINES  
Third Regular Session

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SENATE  
P.S. RES. NO. 23

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

*Introduced by Senator Magsaysay, Jr.*

**RESOLUTION**

**EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE PHILIPPINE SENATE IN URGING THE HOUSE OF COUNCILORS OF JAPAN (THE DIET OF JAPAN) TO ENACT THE LEGISLATION PROMOTING THE RESOLUTION OF ISSUES CONCERNING VICTIMS OF WARTIME SEXUAL COERCION**

**Whereas**, the 1987 Philippine Constitution recognizes the supreme significance of human rights when it declared, “[t]he State values the dignity of every human person and guarantees full respect for human rights” (Article II, Section 11);

**Whereas**, the above-mentioned constitutional axiom is complemented by another declaration in the fundamental law, “[t]he Congress shall give highest priority to the enactment of measures that protect and enhance the right of all the people to human dignity, reduce social, economic, and political inequalities, and remove cultural inequities by equitably diffusing wealth and political power of the common good” (Article XIII, Section 1);

**Whereas**, one of the policy measures in the Japanese Diet being debated is the “Promotion of Resolution for Issues Concerning Victims of Wartime Sexual Coercion Act” which was filed in January 31, 2003 by lawmakers belonging to Japan’s Democratic Party, Communist Party, and Socio-Democratic Party;

**Whereas**, the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea has approved their resolution recommending the Japanese Diet to consider and enact the bill on the promotion for the resolution of issues concerning victims of wartime sexual coercion;

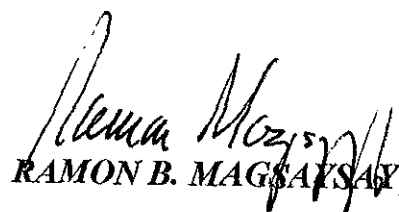
**Whereas**, the Philippine Legislature is recommending to the House of Councilors of Japan the approval of the said proposed measure citing that it will redound to the benefit of the so-called “Filipino comfort women”;

- In the country, there are one hundred fifty one (151) Filipinas who have admitted being victims of wartime sexual coercion;
- The Filipina comfort women aside from humanitarian assistance will be the recipient of not less than twenty two thousand dollars (\$22,000) each, which they can use to rebuild their destroyed lives, help their families and aid them in the last few years of their lives. The said reparation is the standard that was given to similarly situated German comfort women.

**Whereas**, the said measure filed in the House of Councilors is consistent with the United Nations Commission on Human Rights report in 1996: Now therefore be it,

Resolved, by the Senate, to express its sense in urging the House of Councilors of Japan (the Japanese Diet) to enact the legislation promoting the resolution of issues concerning victims of wartime sexual coercion.

Adopted,

  
RAMON B. MAGSAYSAY, JR.