

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



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SENATE  
PS Res. No. 529

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO

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**RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING FIGURE SKATER  
MICHAEL CHRISTIAN MARTINEZ FOR REPRESENTING THE PHILIPPINES IN  
THE 2014 WINTER OLYMPICS HELD IN SOCHI, RUSSIA, FROM FEBRUARY 7 TO  
23, 2014 AND FOR BEING THE FIRST FIGURE SKATER TO REPRESENT A  
SOUTHEAST ASIAN COUNTRY IN THE WINTER OLYMPICS**

**WHEREAS**, Section 17 of Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that, "The State shall give priority to education, science and technology, arts, culture, and sports to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development";

**WHEREAS**, Section 19 of Article XIV of the 1987 Philippine Constitution further provides that, "The State shall promote physical education and encourage sports programs, league competitions, and amateur sports, including training for international competitions, to foster self-discipline, teamwork, and excellence for the development of a healthy and alert citizenry";

**WHEREAS**, Michael Christian Martinez, the lone representative of the Philippines in the 2014 Winter Olympics held in Sochi, Russia, made history as he became the first figure skater ever to represent a Southeast Asian country in the Winter Olympics;

**WHEREAS**, on 13 February 2014, 17-year old Martinez garnered a score of 64.81 in the short skate where he performed to the tune of Arthur Fiedler's *Romeo and Juliet*, assuring him a spot in the final free skating round. After two days of competition, Martinez clinched the 19<sup>th</sup> place with a score of 119.44, garnering a cumulative score of 184.25, after performing his breathtaking free skate routine to the tune of Ernesto Lecuona's *Malagueña*;

**WHEREAS**, the youngest among seasoned contenders, Martinez is an inspiration not only to Filipino athletes but also to all Filipinos and the world as support and praises to him outpoured during and after the competition;

**WHEREAS**, being in a tropical country, Martinez has to practice his complex routines in a local shopping mall's ice rink while his family has to make ends meet to sustain his figure skating dreams;

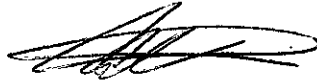
**WHEREAS**, aside from the evident absence of snow in the country, Martinez was beset with several problems in the course of fulfilling his dream, among which are the lack of adequate financial support considering that ice skating is indeed a costly endeavor, and the frailty of his health. Despite the odds, Martinez has overcome these obstacles and pursued his dream with passion and rigor;

**WHEREAS**, because of his outstanding feat, Martinez has epitomized the values of a model Filipino who has faith in God, faith in his ability, resilience and never-say-die attitude, selfless sacrifice, dedication, and perseverance – values which Filipinos are known for;

**WHEREAS**, with his impressive routines and admirable spirit, Martinez has not only gained the respect and attention of his fellow Filipinos but also the world;

**RESOLVED**, *as it is hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate*, that Michael Christian be congratulated and commended for representing the Philippines in the 2014 Winter Olympics held in Sochi, Russia from February 7 to 23, 2014, and for being the youngest figure skater to represent a Southeast Asian country.

Adopted,



**ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO**  
*Senator*