

SENATE

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P.S. Res. No. <u>1605</u>

Introduced by Senator SONNY ANGARA

RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING GILAS PILIPINAS, THE PHILIPPINE MEN'S NATIONAL BASKETBALL TEAM, WITH THEIR COACHES AND THE SAMAHANG BASKETBOL NG PILIPINAS (SBP), FOR THEIR OUTSTANDING REPRESENTATION OF THE COUNTRY AND FOR BOOSTING THE STATUS OF PHILIPPINE BASKETBALL WORLDWIDE IN WINNING THE SILVER MEDAL AT THE 2015 FIBA ASIA CHAMPIONSHIP HELD IN CHANGSHA, HUNAN, CHINA

WHEREAS, the Gilas Pilipinas team, composed of team captain Dondon Hontiveros, Andray Blatche, Gabe Norwood, Jayson Castro William, Calvin Abueva, John Christopher Intal, Terrence Romeo, Jean Marc Pingris, Matt Ganuelas-Rosser, Sonny Thoss, Ranidel de Ocampo, Asi Taulava, together with their head coach Thomas Anthony "Tab" Baldwin and assistant coaches Joseph Uichico, Alexander Compton, Josh Reyes and Norman Black, and with the relentless support of the Samahang Baskebol ng Pilipinas (SBP) headed by Chairman Manny V. Pangilinan, Executive Director Sonny Barrios and Vice Chairman Ricky Vargas, as well as former PBA chairman Patrick Gregorio and former coach Chot Reyes, showed passionate athleticism and resilience with the silver medal finish at the 2015 FIBA Asia Championship;

WHEREAS, Gilas Pilipinas' Jayson Castro William was hailed as the best point guard in Asia, and was selected as one of the Mythical Five which includes China's Yi Jianlian, Guo Ailun and Zhou Qi and Iran's Samad Nikkhah Bahrami;

WHEREAS, the Gilas Pilipinas has had an expressive run showing passion and the Filipino brand of *puso* (heart) all throughout the 2015 FIBA Asia Tournament, even beating the 2013 FIBA Asia Champions, Iran;

WHEREAS, despite coming short of automatically qualifying for the 2016 Olympics to be held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, the Gilas Pilipinas team has shown discipline, teamwork and excellence in their games. The team has once again brought pride and honor to the country, and has truly won the hearts of the Filipino people;

WHEREAS, according to the FIBA rules, Gilas Pilipinas is eligible to play at the FIBA Olympic Qualifying Tournament in July 2016 along with the national basketball teams of Iran and Japan, which placed third and fourth respectively;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to congratulate and commend Gilas Pilipinas players and coaches, and the Samahang Basketbol ng Pilipinas (SBP) for their outstanding representation of the country, and for boosting the status of Philippine basketball worldwide in winning the silver medal at the 2015 FIBA Asia Championship held in Changsa, Hunan, China.

Adopted,

SENATOR SONNY ANGARA