

SENATE
P.S. Resolution No. 1676

Introduced by: Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino IV

RESOLUTION
CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING SENATOR LOREN LEGARDA FOR HER
APPOINTMENT AS A GLOBAL CHAMPION FOR RESILIENCE BY THE UNITED
NATIONS OFFICE FOR DISASTER RISK REDUCTION (UNISDR)

WHEREAS, valiant efforts to champion the environment, sustainability, and preparedness in the face of natural disasters resulting from environmental degradation must be emphatically commended, considering the increasing concern and the urgent call across the global community to address threats to the environment and prepare for the assault of climate change, particularly among nations like the Philippines that are most vulnerable to its effects;

WHEREAS, Senator Loren Legarda is a staunch advocate for the environment, climate change adaptation, and disaster risk reduction and has received various local and international awards and commendations for her advocacy, including the World Economic Forum Global Leaders for Tomorrow (2000), United Nations Environment Program Laureate (2001), UNISDR Hero of Resilience (2012), and the University of the Philippines Distinguished Alumna for Environment Protection and Climate Change Adaptation (2013);

WHEREAS, Senator Legarda is the chairperson of the Senate Committees on Climate Change, Cultural Communities, and Finance;

WHEREAS, under the leadership of Senator Legarda, concerned government departments and agencies including the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB), Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Philippine Institute of Volcanology and Seismology (PHILVOLCS), Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA), National Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Council (NDRRMC), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), Department of Finance (DOF), Department of Budget and Management (DBM), National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), Department of Education (DEPED), Department of Health (DOH), and the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), opted into the coordinated initiative to streamline the efforts of the Philippine Government in pursuing disaster risk reduction and mitigating the consequences of climate change;

WHEREAS, Senator Legarda has proven her commitment to the protection and preservation of the environment through the passage of landmark laws in the Senate, such as the Clean Air Act (RA 8749), Conservation and Protection of Wildlife Resources Act (RA 9147), Environmental Awareness Education Act (RA 9512), Renewable Energy Act (RA 9513), Ecological Solid Waste Management Act (RA 9003), Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act (RA 10121), People's Survival Fund Law (RA 10174), and the Climate Change Act (RA 9279);

WHEREAS, Senator Legarda remains resolute in appealing to the global community on behalf of nations most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, addressing world leaders and delegates to step up to the responsibility of improving the resilience of communities and averting the consequences of climate change, in international forums such as the Global Platform on Disaster Reduction (Switzerland), Global Humanitarian Forum on the Human Impact of Climate Change (Switzerland), 15th Conference of Parties of the United Nations Frameworks Convention on Climate Change Conference (Denmark), the 3rd United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction (Japan), and the Integrated Research on Disaster Risk Conference 2014 (China);

WHEREAS, Senator Legarda championed women's rights and asserted their active role in environmental protection, disaster risk reduction and climate change through her participation in international fora such as Investing in Women's Leadership for Climate Solutions (by the Global Gender and Climate Alliance), Women in Parliaments Global Forum Annual Summit (Belgium), Asia-Europe Meeting Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction and Management (Manila), World Assembly for Women (Japan), High-Level Multi-stakeholder Partnership Dialogue in Mobilizing Women's Leadership in Disaster Risk Reduction (Japan);

WHEREAS, UNISDR recognizes individuals as Disaster Risk Reduction Champions for using their political influence to advocate for disaster risk reduction in their country, region and beyond.¹ These Disaster Risk Reduction Champions receive a letter of designation that may only be issued by the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative for Disaster Risk Reduction and head of UNISDR.

WHEREAS, Senator Legarda was first recognized as the Asia-Pacific Regional Champion for Disaster Risk Reduction during the Third Asian Ministerial Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in 2008;

WHEREAS, Senator Legarda was then recognized at the Paris UN Climate Conference (COP21), and was appointed by UNISDR as its Global Champion for Resilience on November 30, 2015. She is honored to be the second global leader bestowed with this recognition, following the appointment of the former Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono as the first Global Champion of Disaster Risk Reduction in 2011;

WHEREAS, according to the UNISDR, "the Global Champion for Disaster Risk Reduction is a distinguished role to provide leadership to build the resilience of nations and communities from disasters." These champions advocate and promote the goals and priorities of the Hyogo Framework for Action and the new Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction; encourage the highest political leadership in countries to increase investment in disaster risk reduction; and promote disaster risk reduction to a wider set of decision makers to influence opinion and action for sustainable development;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Senate of the Philippines commend Senator Loren Legarda for being a relentless crusader for the environment and congratulate the good senator on her appointment as the Global Champion for Resilience by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR).

Adopted,



¹ Disaster Risk Reduction Champions. (n.d.). Retrieved December 2, 2015, from <http://www.unisdr.org/we/advocate/drr-champions>