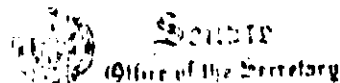


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Third Regular Session



16 JAN -6 P4:17

SENATE  
P.S. Res. No. 1701

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Introduced by SENATOR LOREN LEGARDA

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**RESOLUTION**

**HONORING MS. LETICIA JIMENEZ-MAGSANOC, EDITOR-IN-CHIEF AND ONE OF THE FOUNDERS OF THE BROADSHEET PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER, FOR HER LIFELONG SERVICE TO THE NATION THROUGH HER FIDELITY TO JOURNALISTIC EXCELLENCE AND INTEGRITY**

**WHEREAS**, Article III Section 4 of the 1987 Constitution on the Bill of Rights guarantees the protection and promotion of the freedom of the press and of expression as an inherent and inalienable right of every Filipino;

**WHEREAS**, as long-time editor-in-chief and one of the founders of the Philippine Daily Inquirer, Ms. Leticia "Letty" Jimenez-Magsanoc played a significant role in the pursuit of journalistic freedom during the Martial Law period and more so in the years that followed;

**WHEREAS**, prior to her work in the Philippine Daily Inquirer where she first served as its associate editor and columnist in December 1985, Ms. Magsanoc was considered a veteran journalist and worked as editor-in-chief of *Panorama*—the Sunday edition of the Manila Bulletin and for which she was honored as one of the Ten Outstanding Women in the Nation's Service (Towns) for excelling in the field of media, and as editor of the publications *Mr. and Ms. Special Edition* and of the *Weekly Inquirer*;

**WHEREAS**, she fought for independence in editorial decision-making even in the face of possible persecution, when she wrote an article for the *Panorama* perceived to be critical to the then-sitting president and of the New Society during the Martial Law regime. Her eventual resignation put into the global map the state of press freedom in the country with international media outfits like Time Magazine hailing her as an Asian Hero while also encouraging local journalists to "speak truth to power";

**WHEREAS**, in the aftermath of the assassination of then Senator Benigno Aguino, Jr., she became the editor of the weekly tabloid *Mr & Ms Special Edition* which dealt on the fight for democracy and reported on demonstrations against the abuses of the period;

**WHEREAS**, no less than former President Fidel V. Ramos described Ms. Magsanoc as an "icon of the EDSA People Power Revolution" because of her contribution to the restoration and preservation of democracy;

**WHEREAS**, amidst the renewal of democratic ideals and protection to press freedom under the new constitution, she founded a broadsheet that would

credibly practice its motto of "Balanced News, Fearless Views" which undoubtedly stems from the courageous and independent streak of its founders;

**WHEREAS**, serving as its editor-in-chief from June 1991 until her untimely passing on 24 December 2015, she was considered as the Philippine Daily Inquirer's "unfailing compass", an institution she served for more than twenty four (24) years, making her the first woman and the longest-serving editor-in-chief of one of the country's leading newspapers;

**WHEREAS**, the eldest of nine children of the former Philippine ambassador to South Korea Nicanor Jimenez, she began her career in journalism as a writer by doing features for the *Sunday Times Magazine* even as she was a senior at St. Theresa's College in Manila, and later on completing her Master's Degree in Journalism at the University of Missouri;

**WHEREAS**, she received various awards and distinctions including the Honor Medal for Distinguished Service in Journalism at the University of Missouri in 1993, a citation by the international magazine Businessweek as one of the 50 Asians at the forefront of change dubbed as "The Stars of Asia" and the Marcelo H. Del Pilar Journalism Awardee for Print given by the Rotary Club of Manila in July 2000, inclusion as one of Asia's heroes of the past six decades by Time Magazine together with the Inquirer's founding chair Eugenia Duran Apostol, and as Rotary Club of Manila's Journalist of the Year in June 2015;

**WHEREAS**, her legacy shall live on through the countless individuals she has inspired in all her years of service to the nation through her unquestioned dedication to journalistic excellence and commitment to truth;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** for the Senate to honor Ms. Leticia Jimenez-Magsanoc, editor-in-chief and one of the founders of the broadsheet Philippine Daily Inquirer, for her lifelong service to the nation through her fidelity to journalistic excellence and integrity

Approved,

  
**LOREN LEGARDA**  
Senator