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SENATE

P. S. Res. No. 362

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

RESOLUTION

COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING KAREN MAE CALAM FOR BEING THE TOPNOTCHER IN THE 2016 PHILIPPINE BAR EXAMINATION

WHEREAS, on 3 May 2017, the Supreme Court of the Philippines announced the results of the 2016 Philippine Bar Examination, the professional licensure examination for lawyers administered once every year by the Supreme Court Bar Examination Committee;

WHEREAS, with a rating of 89.05 percent, Certified Public Accountant and University of San Carlos graduate Karen Mae Calam, obtained the highest mark in what is considered as one of the toughest licensure exams in the country, besting over 6,300 other examinees who took the grueling tests which were held during the four Sundays of November 2016 at the University of Santo Tomas in Manila;

WHEREAS, Karen Mae Calam hails from the Municipality of Kalilangan in the Province of Bukidnon, where she completed both her primary and secondary education at the Kalilangan Elementary School and Kalilangan High School, respectively;

WHEREAS, she earned the distinction of being the first bar topnotcher from Bukidnon and the first-ever law graduate of the University of San Carlos, the oldest university in Cebu, to rank first in the Philippine Bar Examination;

WHEREAS, the 2016 Philippine Bar Examination was marked with numerous milestones: with 3,747 examinees passing out of 6,344 examinees, or 59.06 percentage, this examination registered the highest passing rate in 16 years, and for the first time all ten topnotchers are from schools outside Metro Manila, three of which are Mindanaoans;

WHEREAS, the examination covered various subjects including Political Law, Labor Law, Civil Law, Taxation, Mercantile Law, Criminal Law, Remedial Law, and Legal Ethics and Practical Exercises;

WHEREAS, having emerged as 2016's top bar examinee, Karen Mae Calam will join the ranks of prominent and great lawyers who in the past ranked first in the bar such as former Presidents Manuel Roxas, Diosdado Macapagal and Ferdinand Marcos, former Vice-President Emmanuel Pelaez, Senate President Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III, former Senate President Jovito Salonga, former Senators Lorenzo Sumulong, Tecla San Andres, Jose Diokno, San Juan Representative Ronaldo Zamora, former Chief Justices Roberto Concepcion, Claudio Teehankee and Pedro Yap, former Supreme Court Justices Cecilia Muñoz-Palma, Ameurfina Melencio-Herrera, Carolina Griño-Aquino and Arturo Brion, and former legislator and Secretary of Defense Gilbert Teodoro, among many others;

WHEREAS, Karen Mae Calam serves as an inspiration for the people of Bukidnon, and those in other provinces as well, to work hard and believe that with the continued guidance of our Lord, and ample hard work and determination, no dream is too big and no goal is impossible to achieve;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS THE SENATE HEREBY RESOLVES, to commend and congratulate Karen Mae Calam for being the topnotcher in the 2016 Philippine Bar Examination.

Adopted,



JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI