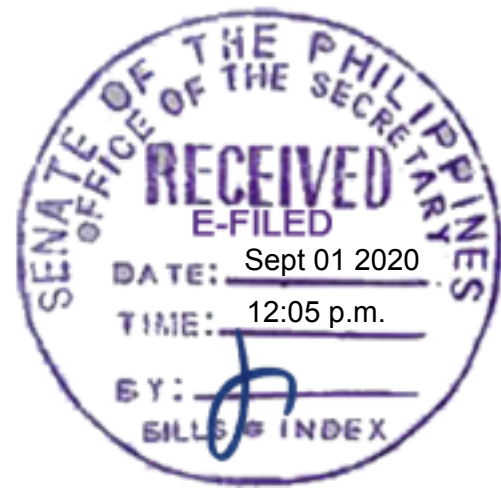


**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )**



**SENATE**

**P.S. Res. No. 510**

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**Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.**

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**RESOLUTION**

**EXPRESSING PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES ON THE DEATH OF GILDA CORDERO-FERNANDO, MULTI-AWARDED WRITER, PUBLISHER, VISUAL ARTIST, THEATER PRODUCER, LITERARY LUMINARY AND CULTURAL ICON**

1 WHEREAS, the Senate, on many occasions, has recognized and honored  
2 remarkable men and women with outstanding contribution to the development of  
3 Philippine society, arts and culture, sports, science and technology, public service,  
4 among others;

5 WHEREAS, Gilda Cordero-Fernando, considered as the Grand Dame of  
6 Philippine Literature, died on August 27, 2020 at the age of 90;

7 WHEREAS, she was best known for her short stories including *The Butcher, The*  
8 *Baker and The Candlestick Maker* (1962) and *A Wilderness of Sweets* (1973), and  
9 these books were later compiled and reissued as the *Story Collection* (1994);

10 WHEREAS, she founded her own publishing house GCF Books which produced  
11 Filipiniana volumes and source books on the nation's rich history, heritage and  
12 traditions, such as *Culinary Culture of the Philippines* (1976), *Streets of Manila* (1977),  
13 *Turn of the Century* (1978), *Philippine Ancestral Houses* (1980), *History of the Burgis*  
14 *(1987)*, *Folk Architecture* (1989), and *The Soul Book* (1991);

15 WHEREAS, she wrote *Philippine Food and Life* (1992) with Alfredo Roces and  
16 edited *Filipino Heritage*, a 10-volume study on Philippine history and culture in 1978;

17 WHEREAS, her critically acclaimed body of work as writer, editor, translator,  
18 and publisher which includes anthology, short stories, children's literature, scholarly

1 books on social science, and cultural research were cited by Carlos Palanca Memorial  
2 Awards for Literature, Philippines Free Press literary awards, National Book Awards,  
3 among others, while some of her work became required readings in tertiary English  
4 classes;

5 WHEREAS, a longtime columnist of “Forever 81” at the Philippine Daily Inquirer,  
6 and of “Tempest in a Teapot” at the Manila Chronicle where she wrote personal essays  
7 and reported episodes of Philippine society, arts and culture;

8 WHEREAS, her immense contribution to Philippine literature, arts and culture is  
9 widely recognized by respected institutions over the years. She was awarded Patnubay  
10 ng Sining for Literature in the 1993 Araw ng Maynila, Cultural Center of the Philippines  
11 Gawad Awardee Para Sa Sining (Publikasyon at Panitikan) in 1994, Sentrong  
12 Pangkultura ng Pilipinas Parangal Sentenyal sa Sining at Kultura in 1999; National  
13 Commission for Culture and the Arts Dangal ng Haraya in 2007; Ateneo de Manila  
14 University Gawad Tanglaw ng Lahi in 2008, Palanca Memorial Awards Gawad Dangal  
15 ng Lahi in 2014;

16 WHEREAS, her passion for the arts led her to explore and excel in other creative  
17 avenues such as stage production, painting, fashion design, art curating, among  
18 others;

19 WHEREAS, “she has given added dignity and recognition to Philippine cultural  
20 forms by publishing Filipiniana books distinguished for painstaking research, insight  
21 and artistry” and “she emphasized an important dimension to the concept and  
22 business of publishing and editing – integrity<sup>1</sup>;

23 WHEREAS, her creative outputs and cultural endeavors enriched the local  
24 literary landscape, and offered lasting contribution in the documentation, preservation  
25 and promotion of our national culture and identity;

26 WHEREAS, her towering achievements, celebrated body of work and significant  
27 contribution in the field of Philippine literature should recognized by this institution;

28 WHEREAS, her passing is a great loss not only to her family and to the arts and  
29 literary community where she was dearly beloved and renowned, but to the entire  
30 nation as well;

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<sup>1</sup> <https://www.culturalcenter.gov.ph/pages/gender-and-development>

1           NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate, to  
2 express profound sympathy and sincere condolences of the Senate of the Philippines  
3 on the death of Gilda Cordero-Fernando, multi-awarded writer, publisher, visual artist,  
4 theater producer, literary luminary and cultural icon;

5           RESOLVED FURTHER, that a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the  
6 bereaved family of the late Gilda Cordero-Fernando.

7

8           *Adopted,*

  
**RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.**