

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

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SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 519

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

RESOLUTION
**EXPRESSING PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF THE
SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES ON THE DEATH OF MARIA AZUCENA VERA-
PEREZ MACEDA, POPULARLY KNOWN AS "MANAY ICHU," BELOVED
MATRIARCH OF THE PHILIPPINE FILM INDUSTRY**

1 WHEREAS, the Senate of the Philippines, on numerous occasions, has
2 recognized and honored distinguished citizens for their important contribution to their
3 respective fields and for their positive influence in the development of our society;
4

5 WHEREAS, Maria Azucena "Marichu" Vera-Perez Maceda, affectionately called
6 "Manay Ichu" in movie and entertainment circles, is a well-respected and beloved
7 movie producer, considered as pioneer and matriarch of the Philippine Film Industry,
8 died last September 7, 2020 at the age of 77, due to cardio-respiratory failure;
9

10 WHEREAS, she was a descendant of the esteemed Vera-Perez family who
11 founded the Sampaguita Pictures in 1937, one the biggest and most prolific movie
12 production studios during the Golden Age of Philippine Cinema during the 1930s until
13 the 1970s;
14

15 WHEREAS, she was a writer, production designer and producer of many popular
16 and acclaimed projects in and outside Sampaguita Pictures, including "*Dyesebel*" and
17 "*Batch '81*";
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19 WHEREAS, she brought together industry stakeholders to establish
20 organizations which promoted the development of Philippine cinema, protected the
21 rights and welfare of the members of the film industry, and supported a creative
22 environment for artists and movie workers. These organizations and initiatives include
23 the Movie Workers Welfare Foundation (Mowelfund), the Metro Manila Film Festival

1 (MMFF), the Film Academy of the Philippines (FAP), the Philippine Motion Pictures
2 Producers Association, the Experimental Cinema of the Philippines (ECP), and the Film
3 Development Council of the Philippines (FDCP) where she headed the International
4 Film Festival Committee;

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6 WHEREAS, in 2018, she was recognized by the Film Development Council of
7 the Philippines (FDCP), as one of the matriarchs and as an “exceptional force” in the
8 Philippine film industry as she “helped found the current pillars of Philippine Cinema
9 and had made steadfast strides for its further development¹;

10
11 WHEREAS, her unwavering passion, constant support, and significant
12 contribution to the film industry enhanced unity and cooperation of industry players,
13 encouraged dynamic growth and advancement of the local film industry, and
14 reinforced the importance of local cinema in the values formation and cultural
15 preservation of the country;

16
17 WHEREAS, her passing is a great loss, not only to her bereaved family and the
18 local film industry, but to the entire nation as well;

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20 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate, to
21 express profound sympathy and sincere condolences of the Senate of the Philippines
22 on the death of Maria Azucena Vera-Perez Maceda, popularly known as “Manay Ichu,”
23 beloved matriarch of the Philippine film industry;

24
25 RESOLVED FURTHER, that a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the
26 bereaved family of the late Maria Azucena Vera-Perez Maceda.

27
28 *Adopted,*


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

¹“Marichu Maceda recognized among ‘Mothers of PH Cinema.’ June 12, 2018. Accessed on September 7, 2020 through <https://www.manilatimes.net/2018/06/12/lifestyle-entertainment/show-times/marichu-maceda-recognized-among-mothers-of-ph-cinema/407469/407469/>