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Introduced by SENATOR PIA S. CAYETANO

A RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING WEIGHTLIFTER HIDILYN FRANCISCO DIAZ FOR BRINGING PRIDE AND HONOR TO THE ENTIRE FILIPINO NATION BY DELIVERING THE COUNTRY'S HISTORIC FIRST GOLD MEDAL IN THE 2020 SUMMER OLYMPICS HELD IN TOKYO, JAPAN

WHEREAS, the 2020 Summer Olympics is an ongoing international multi-sport event that is currently being held from 23 July to 08 August 2021 in Tokyo, Japan;

WHEREAS, since competing in the Olympics in 1924, the Philippines has participated in every edition of the Summer Olympic Games, except in 1980, in a bid to win the country's first ever Olympic Gold Medal;

WHEREAS, Hidilyn Francisco Diaz is part of the official delegation of the Philippines to the 2020 Summer Olympics after qualifying following her participation in the women's 55 kg event in the Asian Weightlifting Championships held in Tashkent, Uzbekistan;¹

WHEREAS, Diaz, who grew up in a small village in Zamboanga City,² was discovered and trained by Elbert Atilano, a local weightlifter, and her cousin, Catalino Diaz when she was only 10 years old;³

WHEREAS, seeing her potential as a strong weightlifter, they began Diaz's training by creating makeshift barbells from plastic pipes with added concrete to both ends and was eventually taught the basics of weightlifting;⁴

WHEREAS, in 2002, Diaz joined her first competition in weightlifting, Batang Pinoy, in Puerto Princesa and won the gold medal;⁵

¹https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/sports/othersports/784212/hidilyn-diaz-officially-qualifies-for-tokyo-olympics/story/

² https://www.deped.gov.ph/2016/12/06/hidilyn-diaz-a-victors-crown/

³https://www.spin.ph/life/people/everything-you-need-to-know-about-hidilyn-diaz-a1374-20210726-lfrm

⁴https://www.spin.ph/life/people/everything-you-need-to-know-about-hidilyn-diaz-a1374-20210726-lfrm

⁵https://www.spin.ph/life/people/everything-you-need-to-know-about-hidilyn-diaz-a1374-20210726-lfrm

WHEREAS, Diaz achieved tenth place in the 2006 Asian Games in the 53-kilogram class and was a bronze medalist in the 2007 SEA Games in Thailand;⁶

WHEREAS, while a student of the Universidad de Zamboanga, Diaz won two golds and one silver in the Asian Youth/Junior Weightlifting Championship held in Jeonju, South Korea;⁷

WHERE, Diaz competed in the 2008 Beijing Olympics as a selected wildcard entry, and again in the 2012 London Olympics with no medals;⁸

WHEREAS, in 2016, Diaz ended the 20-year drought of the country in the Olympics when she won a silver medal for weightlifting in the women's 53kg category at the Rio de Janeiro Olympics making this her fourth Olympics in a row;⁹

WHEREAS, Diaz became the first ever Filipino weightlifter to win gold in the regional games at the Asian Games in 2018;¹⁰

WHEREAS, she continued to remain victorious, standing in first place in the 2019 Southeast Asian Games in Manila and stood in fourth place in the 2019 World Championships;¹¹

WHEREAS, on 26 July 2021, Diaz brought pride and honor to the entire Filipino nation when she bagged the first ever gold medal for the Philippines by winning in the women's 55 kilograms Weightlifting Competition in the 2020 Summer Olympics;

WHEREAS, her success was a result of her clean and jerk, where she lifted 119 kilograms in her first attempt, 124 kilograms in her second attempt, and 127 kilograms in her final attempt, prevailing over both opponents, Quiyun Liao from China and Zulfiya Chinshanlo from Kazakhstan;¹²

WHEREAS, Diaz set a new Olympic World Record of 224 kilograms in total, edging out former World Champion, Quiyun Liao from China, who previously set the world record for the clean and jerk at 129 kilograms; 14

WHEREAS, she is now the second Filipino Olympian who has won multiple medals in the Summer Olympics, after Teofilo Yldefonzo who won bronze for both his medals in swimming in 1928 and 1932;¹⁵

⁶ https://philippineslifestyle.com/hidilyn-diaz-35m-prize-olympic-gold-medal/

⁷ https://philippineslifestyle.com/hidilyn-diaz-35m-prize-olympic-gold-medal/

⁸ https://www.rappler.com/sports/weightlifting-results-hidilyn-diaz-tokyo-olympics-july-26-2021

 $^{^{9}\} https://cnnphilippines.com/sports/2016/08/08/rio-2016-hidilyn-diaz-wins-silver-medal.html$

 $^{^{10}\} https://news.abs-cbn.com/sports/07/26/21/gold-at-last-hidilyn-writes-ph-sports-history-as-olympic-champ$

 $^{^{11}} https://asia.nikkei.com/Spotlight/Tokyo-2020-Olympics/Olympics-latest-Hidilyn-Diaz-wins-Philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-Hidilyn-Diaz-wins-Philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-Hidilyn-Diaz-wins-Philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-Hidilyn-Diaz-wins-Philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-Hidilyn-Diaz-wins-Philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-Hidilyn-Diaz-wins-Philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-Hidilyn-Diaz-wins-Philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-Hidilyn-Diaz-wins-Philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-Hidilyn-Diaz-wins-Philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-Hidilyn-Diaz-wins-Philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-Hidilyn-Diaz-wins-Philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-Hidilyn-Diaz-wins-Philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-Hidilyn-Diaz-wins-Philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-Hidilyn-Diaz-wins-Philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-Hidilyn-Diaz-wins-Philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-Hidilyn-Diaz-wins-Philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-Hidilyn-Diaz-wins-Philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-hidilyn-Diaz-wins-philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-hidilyn-Diaz-wins-philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-hidilyn-Diaz-wins-philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-hidilyn-Diaz-wins-philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-hidilyn-Diaz-wins-philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-hidilyn-Diaz-wins-philippines-first-ever-gold-medalatest-hidilyn-Diaz-wins-philippines-gold-hidilyn-Diaz-wins-philippines-gold-hidilyn-Diaz-wins-philippines-gold-hidilyn-Diaz-wins-philippines-gold-hidilyn-Diaz-wins-philippines-gold-hidilyn-Diaz-wins-philippines-gold-hidilyn-Diaz-wins-gold-hidilyn-Diaz-wins-gold-hidilyn-Diaz-wins-gold-hidilyn-Diaz-wins-gold-hidilyn-Diaz-wins-gold-hidilyn-Diaz-wins-gold-hidilyn-Diaz-wins-gold-hidilyn-hidily$

¹² https://news.abs-cbn.com/sports/07/26/21/gold-at-last-hidilyn-writes-ph-sports-history-as-olympic-champ

¹³ https://www.philstar.com/sports/2021/07/26/2115385/hidilyn-diaz-finally-captures-elusive-olympic-gold-philippines

¹⁴ https://www.taiwannews.com.tw/en/news/4259060

¹⁵ https://sports.inquirer.net/430487/hidilyn-diaz-wins-weightlifting-gold-in-tokyo-olympics

WHEREAS, the four-time Olympic veteran's feat is also a victory for all Filipiinas and Filipina athletes proving that women athletes can break barriers, achieve new heights, and excel with the right breaks, training, and support;

WHEREAS, the Filipina weightlifter's triumph is a result of her hard work and perseverance and serves as a guiding inspiration to all Filipino athletes.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Senate of the Philippines congratulate and commend weightlifter Hidilyn Francisco Diaz for bringing pride and honor to the entire Filipino nation by delivering the country's historic first gold medal in the 2020 Summer Olympics held in Tokyo, Japan.

Pia S. Caylans SID-PIA S. CAYETANO

Adopted,