EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Third Regular Session



SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 885

Introduced by Senator FRANKLIN M. DRILON

RESOLUTION CONFERRING THE PHILIPPINE SENATE MEDAL OF EXCELLENCE TO 2021 RAMON MAGSAYSAY AWARDEE ROBERTO BALLON

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 110 establishes the Philippine Senate Medal of Excellence
 to recognize, honor, and commend outstanding Filipinos, for their exemplary service,
 exceptional achievements, and invaluable contributions to nation-building;

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 110 provides that the Philippine Senate Medal of Excellence
be conferred upon Filipinos who are recipients of the Ramon Magsaysay Award, Asia's
premier prize and highest honor;

WHEREAS, on 31 August 2021, community leader Roberto "Ka Dodoy" Ballon, was
named one of five recipients of the 2021 Ramon Magsaysay Award, which recognizes
"greatness of spirit shown through selfless service to the peoples of Asia";

WHEREAS, Ka Dodoy, who hails from Zamboanga Sibugay, is the 52nd Filipino to receive Asia's highest honor, for "inspiring determination in leading his fellow fisherfolk in reviving a dying fishing industry by creating a sustainable marine environment for this generation and generations to come," through efforts such as putting up the Kapunungan sa Gamay mga Mangingisda sa Concepcion to focus on mangrove reforestation;

WHEREAS, Ka Dodoy, "has broken the mold by leading his community in preserving the coastal environment that has been the life-source for generations of fishing families," which has led to the dramatic improvement of fish catch in Sibugay, the replication of his efforts in nearby towns, and consequently, in the fisherfolk's quality of life;

WHEREAS, prior to being bestowed Asia's highest honor, Ka Dodoy was named as the most outstanding fisherfolk in Zamboanga Sibugay in the year 2012, awarded the National Gawad Natatanging Parangal for fish conservation by the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic

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Resources (BFAR) in 2019 and cited as the most outstanding fisherfolk organization leader
by the Ateneo de Zamboanga University in 2011;

WHEREAS, in being hailed by the he Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation as a "shining example of how everyday acts of heroism can truly be extraordinary and transformative", Ka Dodoy proved that ordinary citizens with noble intentions and the determination to take action can be agents of profound change: Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, To confer the Philippine Senate Medal of
 Excellence to Roberto "Ka Dodoy" Ballon for his outstanding achievement in being named
 as recipient of the Ramon Magsaysay Award, thus bringing honor and prestige to the
 Republic of the Philippines, and serving as inspiration to Filipino fisherfolk and all Filipinos.
 Adopted,

FRANKLIN M. DRILON

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