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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



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SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 74

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES ON THE DEATH OF THE TWELFTH PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES AND FORMER CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES, THE HONORABLE FIDEL VALDEZ RAMOS

1 **WHEREAS**, former President Fidel Valdez Ramos (FVR), the 12th President of
2 the Republic of the Philippines who served from 1992 to 1998, passed away on the
3 31st of July 2022 at the age of 94;¹

4 **WHEREAS**, FVR is a scholar of par excellence - a degree holder from the United
5 States Military Academy West Point; Master of Science in Civil Engineering from the
6 University of Illinois; Master of National Security Administration from the National
7 Defense College of the Philippines; and a Master of Business Administration from the
8 Ateneo de Manila University. He is also a recipient of some 28 honorary doctorates,
9 many of them from foreign educational institutions;²

10 **WHEREAS**, FVR was a veteran of the Korean and Vietnam Wars.³ Prior to
11 being elected President, he first served in the uniformed service and rose from the
12 ranks until he became the Chief of the Philippine Constabulary from 1972 to 1986. He
13 subsequently became the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines in 1986

¹ Parrocha, A. (31 July 2022) *Former president Fidel V. Ramos dies*. Retrieved 31 July 2022, from <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1180248>

² Britannica. *Fidel Ramos, President of the Philippines*. Retrieved 31 July 2022, from <https://www.britannica.com/biography/Fidel-Ramos>

³ Cal, B. (25 June 2021) *FVR among 174 living Pinoy veterans of the Korean War*. Retrieved 31 July 2022, from <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1145023>

1 where he served until 1988. President Ramos then became the Secretary of National
2 Defense from 1988 to 1991;⁴

3 **WHEREAS**, FVR is the only career military officer who reached the rank of five-
4 star general who rose from second lieutenant up to commander-in-chief of the Armed
5 Forces;⁵

6 **WHEREAS**, FVR's Presidency has rallied behind the Philippines 2000 platform
7 and was widely successful, making it one of the greatest legacies of his administration;

8 **WHEREAS**, FVR's administration is best remembered and lauded for
9 implementing policies and programs aimed at strengthening national reconciliation
10 and unity and at promoting the Filipino economy;⁶

11 **WHEREAS**, through the sound public policies during his administration, major
12 peace agreements with separatists resulted in lasting peace, which in turn boosted
13 the local economy and gained greater investor confidence in the country;⁷

14 **WHEREAS**, FVR pushed for the deregulation of key industries and the
15 liberalization of the economy, and encouraged the privatization of public entities
16 enhancing efficiency in service delivery, including modernization of public
17 infrastructure through an expanded Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) law;⁸

18 **WHEREAS**, FVR and his economic team instituted fiscal reforms that paved
19 the way for the Philippines to be called "*Asia's New Tiger*";

20 **WHEREAS**, FVR's administration succeeded in establishing relative political
21 stability after years of turmoil - producing economic growth and a reduction of poverty
22 from 41 percent of the population to about 30 percent;⁹

⁴ The Maritime Review. *Fidel V. Ramos*. Retrieved 31 July 2022, from <https://maritimereview.ph/contributors/>

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ Global Leadership Foundation. *Fidel Valdez Ramos. President, Republic of the Philippines 1992-1998*. Retrieved 31 July 2022, from <https://www.g-l-f.org/who-we-are/glf-members-listed-by-region/fidel-valdez-ramos/>

⁷ *Ibid.*

⁸ *Id.*

⁹ *Id.*

1 **WHEREAS**, FVR implemented a comprehensive Social Reform Agenda (SRA)
2 that played a vital role in the Philippines' economic recovery. It addressed the long-
3 standing problems of poverty, jobs and livelihood, health, education and skills training,
4 housing, environmental protection, children and the youth, the elderly and the
5 handicapped, agrarian reform, and access to equal opportunity. He signed Executive
6 Order creating a President's Commission to fight poverty which gathered under one
7 umbrella all government activities designed to help the poor households and
8 communities so that they catch up with the more progressive ones. The average family
9 income grew more during President Ramos' administration than in the previous twenty
10 years;¹⁰

11 **WHEREAS**, in 1997, the Philippines was awarded the UNESCO Peace Prize -
12 the very first in Asia - when the agreement with the Moro National Liberation Front
13 (MNLF) was brokered;¹¹

14 **WHEREAS**, during President Ramos's term of office, remarkable gains were
15 made in revitalizing the economy, repairing the infrastructure, and establishing peace
16 with dissident factions of the country;

17 **WHEREAS**, his administration, apart from being hailed by increased stability
18 and progress on economic reforms, also focused on establishing meaningful programs
19 for the labor sector through convening the National Employment Summit in 1998,
20 which developed a comprehensive package of public policies on employment. This
21 paved the way to a re-focused regular programs of the Department of Labor and
22 Employment (DOLE) towards assisting displaced workers and implementation of social
23 programs to reduce worker dislocation;¹²

24 **WHEREAS**, the growth of the country's Gross National Income (GNI) which
25 was at 0.72% in 1991, surged to 8.42% in 1998;¹³

¹⁰ *Id.*

¹¹ *Id.*

¹² Tuaño, Philip Arnold P. (January 2002). "The Effects of the Asian Financial Crisis on the Philippines Labor Market" (PDF). *Regional Project on the Social Impact of the Asian Financial Crisis*. Accessed on July 31, 2022.

¹³ <https://data.worldbank.org/indicator>

1 **WHEREAS**, after living fifty-one (51) years in public service, President Ramos
2 founded the Ramos Peace and Development Foundation which is dedicated to the
3 promotion of peace and development in the Philippines and the Asia-Pacific region and
4 was a founding member of the Global Leadership Foundation which advocate for
5 democratic leadership, promote good governance, human rights and the rule of law;¹⁴

6 **WHEREAS**, FVR has left a strong legacy to our nation and continues to give
7 his indelible imprints on patriotism that celebrate a milestone of life, love, learning for
8 his people and service to our nation. His Presidency is best remembered for promoting
9 the principles of people empowerment, a culture of excellence, and global
10 competitiveness, focusing on programs to alleviate poverty and improve the lives of
11 ordinary Filipinos;

12 **WHEREAS**, the long list of gains of his administration and his impassioned and
13 genuine public service would evince the character of this man whose courage, acumen
14 and unparalleled loyalty to our nation has undeniably catapulted our country to greater
15 heights;

16 **WHEREAS**, we echo today his own Address at the 10th International General
17 Meeting, Pacific Economic Cooperation Council on March 22, 1994, under his
18 Presidency, "*a kitten has become a tiger.*"¹⁵ With him shepherding our nation, we were
19 able to withstand the aftermath of crises whether man-made or an act of nature. As
20 already said, he not only understood the importance of institutions, "*but also adopted*
21 *a visionary style of governance based on technocratic merit, empirical evidence, and*
22 *a good measure of personal discipline and competence.*"¹⁶ His invaluable contribution
23 to our nation allowed us to match the growth of our Asian peers, and put us back on
24 the map again;

¹⁴ Ramos Peace and Development Foundation. *About the Foundation*. Retrieved 31 July 2022, from <https://rpdev.org/about-the-foundation>

¹⁵ Ramos, F. (22 March 1994) *Address of President Ramos at the 10th International General Meeting, Pacific Economic Cooperation Council*. Retrieved 31 July 2022, from <https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/1994/03/22/address-of-president-ramos-at-the-10th-international-general-meeting-pacific-economic-cooperation-council-march-22-1994/>

¹⁶ Heydarian R. (11 December 2013) *Why Fidel Ramos was the best*. Retrieved 31 July 2022, from <https://opinion.inquirer.net/118100/why-fidel-ramos-was-the-best>

