

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)**

'22 AUG 15 P1:32

**SENATE
P. S. Res No. 138**

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Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

**RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING THE SINCEREST CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE AND
HONORING THE MEMORY OF PHILIPPINE ATHLETICS LEGEND LYDIA DE
VEGA-MERCADO**

1 **WHEREAS**, Philippine athletics legend Lydia de Vega-Mercado, "Diay" as she
2 was fondly called, passed away on August 10, 2022;

3
4 **WHEREAS**, Lydia de Vega-Mercado has been acclaimed as Asia's fastest
5 woman and Asia's Sprint Queen of the 1980s. She was a two-time Olympian and
6 joined the mission for the Philippines' first gold medal in 1984 Los Angeles and 1988
7 Seoul Summer Games;

8
9 **WHEREAS**, Lydia de Vega-Mercado, who was born on December 26, 1964 in
10 Meycauayan, Bulacan, was a product of the Gintong Alay track and field program.
11 She was coached by her father Francisco "Tatang" de Vega;

12
13 **WHEREAS**, the father and daughter tandem brought several medals to the
14 Philippines. Lydia de Vega-Mercado won gold in the 200-meter and 400-meter run in
15 the 1981 Southeast Asian Games. Her performance leveled up in the 1982 and 1986
16 Asian Games where she bagged the gold medal in the 100-meter dash;

17
18 **WHEREAS**, one of the most adorned athletes in Philippine sports, Lydia de
19 Vega-Mercado has collected fifteen (15) gold medals across multiple international
20 competitions: nine (9) from the Southeast Asian Games, two (2) at the Asian Games
21 and four (4) at the Asian Athletics Championship;

22
23 **WHEREAS**, while her track and field achievements became headlines and
24 victory, Lydia de Vega - Mercado has seen her share of loss and faced many hurdles
25 in life. She had lost his son in a tragic road accident in 2001 but she still raced on;

26
27 **WHEREAS**, even after her retirement in 1994, Lydia de Vega-Mercado
28 continued to fight for the causes she believed in. She has served as a councilor of

1 her native town in Bulacan and afterwards, worked in Singapore and coached young
2 athletes;

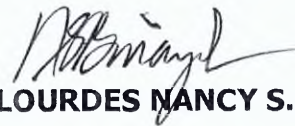
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4 **WHEREAS** Lydia de Vega-Mercado's life will be eternally remembered and
5 will continue to inspire Filipinos. Her legacy is a testament that Filipino athletes are
6 world class.

7

8 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED,**
9 that the Senate of the Philippines expresses its sincerest condolences and honors the
10 memory of Philippine athletics legend Lydia de Vega-Mercado

Adopted,



MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY