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SENATE
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RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by **Senator Risa Hontiveros**

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING ALEXANDRA EALA FOR BEING
THE FIRST EVER FILIPINO TENNIS PLAYER TO WIN A GRAND SLAM JUNIOR
SINGLES TITLE**

WHEREAS, last 11 September 2022, Alexandra Eala made history when she won the US Open Grand Slam Junior championship, making her the first Filipino to win a Grand Slam junior singles title¹;

WHEREAS, prior to her historic win last 11 September, she is arguably the most successful tennis player in the country to this date, having the honor of holding two junior Grand Slam doubles titles, having won at the 2020 Australian Open and at the 2021 French Open²;

WHEREAS, her winning performance during the US Open Grand Slam was foreshadowed by her masterful performances at the previous 2020 Australian Open and 2021 French Open, despite only making her junior debut last 2019³;

WHEREAS, she has surpassed the records set by earlier Filipino tennis players like the junior singles category semifinal run of Felix Barrientos, a record she outdid in the 2020 French Open and the 2022 US Open. This ended a 35 year period of no Filipino athlete in the singles tournament semifinals⁴;

WHEREAS, she broke another record last month by becoming the highest ranked Filipino on the Women's Tennis Association Tour at World No. 280, outperforming the No. 284 ranking of Maricris Fernandez-Gents⁵;

WHEREAS, for her victory at the 2020 Australian Open and the 2021 French Open doubles titles, she was ranked as the International Tennis Federation's (ITF) Juniors World No. 2⁶;

WHEREAS; she was the first to share her victory and use it as a platform to further advance the future of Philippine tennis, saying that: "buong puso ko itong pinaglaban. Hindi lang para sa sarili ko kundi para makatulong din ako sa kinabukasan ng Philippine tennis. So hindi lang ito panalo ko, panalo natin lahat."⁷;

WHEREAS, Alexandra Eala is in the company of other great Filipinas who made history in the past two years who produced in such a short time: the country's maiden gold Olympic medal (Hidilyn Diaz), the first ever Filipino Nobel laureate (Maria Ressa), a historic FIFA World Cup Qualifying seat (PH Malditas)⁸, and the first ever Filipino US Women's Open Championship win (Yuka Saso)⁹;

¹ <https://www.rappler.com/sports/final-results-alex-eala-lucie-havlickova-us-open-september-10-2022/>

² https://www.usopen.org/en_US/news/articles/2022-09-

³ [10/alexandra_eala_becomes_first_filipina_to_win_a_junior_grand_slam_singles_title_at_the_2022_us_open.html](https://www.usopen.org/en_US/news/articles/2022-09-10/alexandra_eala_becomes_first_filipina_to_win_a_junior_grand_slam_singles_title_at_the_2022_us_open.html)

⁴ *ibid*

⁵ <https://metro.style/people/society-personalities/alex-eala-girls-championship-doubles-french-open/30514>

⁶ <https://news.abs-cbn.com/sports/09/11/22/history-made-alex-eala-wins-us-open-juniors-title>

⁷ *ibid*

⁸ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wMWevjJG51g>

⁹ <https://manilastandard.net/spotlight/314206269/ph-malditas-from-nowhere-to-the-world-cup.html>

⁹ <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1142784>

WHEREAS, these women at the forefront in leading us to new heights, as a nation and as a people, have achieved these remarkable feats despite pushbacks and obstacles, from lack of financial support to political controversy;

WHEREAS, history makers and glass-ceiling breakers like Alexandra Eala, Hidilyn Diaz, Maria Ressa, the PH Marditas, Yuka Saso, and numerous other Filipinas who persevere despite the odds and use their platforms to inspire and to generate greater good should serve as a reminder of every Filipina's resilience in the face of adversity, perseverance despite uncertainty, and strength against all odds;

NOW THEREFORE RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to commend and congratulate Alexandra Eala for being the first ever Filipino tennis player to win a Grand Slam Junior Singles Title.

Adopted,


RISA HONTIVEROS
Senator