

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

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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: _____



P. S. Res. No. 222

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

RESOLUTION

COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING OUR NATIONAL PRIDE FILIPINO POLE VAULTER ERNEST JOHN "EJ" OBIENA FOR HIS WINNING STREAK IN INTERNATIONAL COMPETITIONS AND FOR A SUCCESSFUL 2022 CAMPAIGN

1 WHEREAS, the Senate of the Philippines has consistently recognized and
2 honored outstanding Filipinos for their remarkable achievements in international
3 sports competitions and for bringing glory and pride to the country;

4 WHEREAS, Ernest John "EJ" Obiena, 26-year old Filipino athlete, Olympian,
5 Asian record holder, and number three in the world ranking for men's pole vault,
6 competed and won in numerous prestigious international competitions in pole vault,
7 both in the indoor and outdoor seasons of the sport, from February 4 to September
8 12, 2022;

9 WHEREAS, Obiena claimed his first gold medal for this year in the Orlen Cup
10 held in Atlas Arena, Lodz, Poland on February 11, 2022. Just a few days later, on
11 February 22, he then secured his second gold in Orlen Copernicus Cup in Torun,
12 Poland;

13 WHEREAS, Obiena cleared 5.91 meters in the Perche Elite Tour in Rouen,
14 France which was held on March 5, 2022. In the same tilt, he set a season-best
15 performance and took home a silver to cap his outing for the indoor season;

16 WHEREAS, Obiena began his outdoor season with a successful title defense in
17 the 31st Southeast Asian Games in Hanoi, Vietnam. He also set a new meet record in

1 the event after clearing the 5.46-meter mark in a single attempt and broke the 5.45-
2 meter bar he set in the 2019 SEA Games;

3 WHEREAS, Obiena continued to reap golds as he topped the L'Aquila leg of
4 the European City of Sports tournament in Italy on May 29, and in Täby
5 Stavhoppsgala Elite Event in Sweden last June 28. On July 2, he conquered the
6 Jump and Fly tilt in Hechingen, Germany and won another gold;

7 WHEREAS, Obiena made history when he won a bronze medal at the
8 World Athletics Championships in Oregon, USA last July 24 and became the first
9 Filipino to reach the podium in the prestigious competition. Therein, he also reset
10 the Asian and personal best records with a 5.94 meter clearance;

11 WHEREAS, Obiena snagged more medals in the succeeding legs of the
12 outdoor season. To wit, a bronze in the August 6 meet in Chorzow, Poland; a
13 gold medal from the August 23 competition in Jockgrim, Germany; and another
14 bronze in Lausanne Diamond League in Switzerland on August 25;

15 WHEREAS, Obiena had another winning streak as he copped three
16 consecutive gold medals in Leverkusen, Germany on August 28; in St. Wendel City
17 Jump in Germany on August 31; in Wanda Diamond League in Brussels, Belgium on
18 September 2, where he bested world record holder Armand Duplantis of Sweden;

19 WHEREAS, Obiena maintained his stellar performance to deliver another silver
20 in ISTAF meet in Berlin, Germany on September 4, and a back-to-back gold medal
21 win in the Golden Fly Series in Liechtenstein on September 11, and in Gala dei
22 Castelli in Bellinzona, Switzerland on September 12;

23 WHEREAS, Obiena bagged twelve gold, two silver, and three bronze medals
24 in twenty-two events in less than a year of competing in the international stage,
25 thereby bringing pride and honor for the country;

26 WHEREAS, Obiena's success and impressive medal haul is a product of his
27 steadfast determination, perseverance and commitment to excellence, despite a host
28 of serious challenges thrown his way including a knee injury, novel Coronavirus
29 infection, and prior dispute against his very own sports association;

30 WHEREAS, Obiena soared to great heights and reigned supreme against
31 formidable opponents in international competitions, yet he remained humble and

1 down-to-earth as he recognized the generous support of his parents, coach and
2 support team, supporters from the government, and even paid tribute to his
3 predecessors who paved the way for him and for the sport;

4 WHEREAS, Obiena’s fighting spirit, strong resolve to always aim higher, and
5 unwavering drive to become better are positive attributes that the younger
6 generation can emulate. His achievements at such a young age should be made
7 known and celebrated to inspire the youth to enter into sports which foster self-
8 discipline, character development and patriotism;

9 WHEREAS, Obiena is indeed a national pride whose triumphs, world-class skill
10 and display of sportsmanship enhance the country’s image and standing in the
11 international community, and merit recognition from the Philippine Senate;

12 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate,
13 to commend and congratulate our national pride Filipino pole vaulter Ernest John
14 “EJ” Obiena for his winning streak in international competitions and for a successful
15 2022 campaign.

Adopted,


JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA