

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: _____

P.S. Res. No. 389

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

**RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING THE 2022 OUTSTANDING RURAL
WOMEN FOR BEING ROLE MODELS FOR WOMEN EMPOWERMENT**

WHEREAS, the Philippine Senate has, on several occasions, give recognition and commendation to outstanding Filipinos for their remarkable feats of bringing honor, pride and glory to the country by garnering prestigious awards;

WHEREAS, Section 14, Article II of the 1987 Constitution states that, "The State recognizes the role of women in nation-building, and shall ensure the fundamental equality before the law of women and men";

WHEREAS, According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), rural women comprise a quarter of the total world population and represent approximately 43 percent of the agricultural labor force. In the Philippines, women farmers and fisherfolk can be found in the various segments of the value chain of agribusiness;

WHEREAS, the Outstanding Rural Women Awards or *Gawad Parangal sa Katangi-tanging Kababaihan sa Pagsasaka sa Kanayunan*, is an annual search for extraordinary women who have manifested exemplary contributions to food security and the rural economy. Through the search since 2003, the Department of Agriculture highlights the role of rural women as food heroes who have shown excellence in their

field of endeavor and made significant impacts in the rural areas with high poverty incidence, in the hope to improve delivery of necessary services and interventions;

WHEREAS, The nominees were adjudged according to: (a) contribution to food security/agricultural and fishery development—productivity, profitability of economic activities, and quality of products/services, (b) contribution to sustainable development—efforts to protect the environment, efforts to adapt to climate change/emerging conditions, and innovativeness/creativity, and (c) impact to rural women — promotion of women empowerment and gender equality, improvement of family life, excellence in character/ability to hurdle difficulties, and contribution to local economy;

WHEREAS, From the 10 regional winners, the national technical committee and the board of judges, chaired by Ms. Hazel A. Tanchuling, Executive Director of Rice Watch Action Network, Inc., have chosen the top five candidates as the 2022 Outstanding Rural Women;

WHEREAS, Dolores Rebatado Ceralbo (Negros Occidental) was selected as lead awardee. Leizel Ercilla Grajo (Sorsogon), Ma. Rio Luz Ando Majadas (Leyte), Rebecca Brillo Gacayan of (Sultan Kudarat) and Jolenda Fomat-og Lomas-e (Mountain Province) were her runner-ups;

WHEREAS, Dolores Rebatado Ceralbo's passion for sustainable agriculture started with her simple goal – providing three meals daily for her family. Through her dedication and diligence, Dolores was able to establish her organic integrated farm. In the desire to help other community farmers, she organized a farmer's association in 2006. Through strong commitment among the members, the association was linked to other organizations that provided various marketing opportunities;

WHEREAS, the Senate of the Philippines proudly joins the Department of Agriculture in lauding the 2022 Outstanding Rural Women for their continuing

excellence in serving as inspiration and models of empowerment to other women across the nation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to congratulate and commend the 2022 awardees and finalists of "2022 Outstanding Rural Women" or "*Gawad Parangal sa Katangi-tanging Kababaihan sa Pagsasaka sa Kanayunan*" award conferred by the Department of Agriculture.

1. Dolores Rebatado Ceralbo (Negros Occidental)

Runner-Ups

2. Leizel Ercilla Grajo (Sorsogon)
3. Ma. Rio Luz Ando Majadas (Leyte)
4. Rebecca Brillo Gacayan of (Sultan Kudarat)
5. Jolenda Fomat-og Lomas-e (Mountain Province)

Finalists

6. Evelyn Gonzales Banan (La Union)
7. Mercy Andres Biala (Isabela)
8. Veronica Iniego Lastima (Bukidnon)
9. Sonia Besas Estrella (Surigao Del Norte)
10. Vilma Bundalian Joson (Nueva Ecija)

Adopted,


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.