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**SENATE**

**P.S. Res. No. 439**

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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Introduced by **SENATOR CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**

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**RESOLUTION**

**CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING THE PHILIPPINES NATIONAL FENCING TEAM FOR WINNING EIGHT GOLD MEDALS, SEVEN SILVER MEDALS AND ELEVEN BRONZE MEDALS THEREBY EMERGING AS THE SECOND OVER-ALL CHAMPION AT THE 2023 SOUTHEAST ASIAN FENCING FEDERATION CHAMPIONSHIPS HELD ON JANUARY 5 TO 13, 2023 AT KUALA LUMPUR, MALAYSIA**

**WHEREAS**, Article XIV, Section 19 (1) of the 1987 Constitution states that "The State shall promote physical education and encourage sports programs, league competitions, and amateur sports, including training for international competitions, to foster self-discipline, teamwork, and excellence for the development of a healthy and alert citizenry;"

**WHEREAS**, in various occasions, the Senate of the Philippines has paid tribute to outstanding Filipino athletes for bringing home pride and honor to the country by winning in international sports competitions;

**WHEREAS**, on January 5 to 13, 2023 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, the Philippine National Fencing Team participated in the 2023 Southeast Asian Fencing Federation Championships, which is a fencing competition joined by national fencing associations of countries in the South East Asia region that are duly recognized by their respective National Olympic Committee and accredited by the Federation International D'Esgrime<sup>1</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, the periodic Southeast Asian Fencing Federation Championships aim to propagate, encourage, promote and develop the sport and art of amateur fencing within the region;<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> <https://fie.org/>

<sup>2</sup> *ibid*

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines National Fencing Team emerged victorious as it won a total of twenty-six (26) medals - eight (8) gold medals, seven (7) silver medals, and eleven (11) bronze medals - thereby finishing as the second over-all champion at the said 2023 Southeast Asian Federation Fencing Championships;

**WHEREAS**, the members of the Philippine National Fencing Team who won gold medals at the 2023 Southeast Asian Fencing Federation Championships are as follows:

1. Andre Agatep  
(Men's Junior Individual Sabre)
2. Wilhelmina Lozada  
(Women's Senior Individual Foil)
3. Meagan Elizabeth Co Say  
(Cadet Women's Saber)
4. Noelito Jose Jr.  
(Men's Senior Individual Epee)
5. Alexa Larrazabal  
(Cadet Women's Epee)
6. The team of Arianna Tiu, Kaikaku Dela Serna, Maegan Co Say, Maiev Tyra de Boy  
(Women's Junior Team Saber)
7. The team of Janna Catantan, Martina Bacay, Hannah Belarmino, Miyake Capina  
(Women's Junior Team Foil)
8. The team of Andre Agatep, Enrico Suplico, Ram Jimenez, Tomas Robert Cabrera  
(Men's Junior Team Saber).;<sup>3</sup>

**WHEREAS**, the members of the Philippine National Fencing Team who won silver medals at the 2023 Southeast Asian Fencing Federation Championships are as follows:

1. Hannah Belarmino  
(Women's Junior Individual Foil)
2. Kaikaku dela Serna  
(Women's Junior Individual Sabre)
3. Joseph Anthony Godbout  
(Cadet Men's Epee)
4. Ashley Mae Harrison

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<sup>3</sup> <https://mb.com.ph/2023/01/15/ph-fencers-reap-eight-golds-in-southeast-asian-tilt/>

- (Cadet Women's Epee)
5. The team of Juliana Gomez, Ivy Claire Dinoy, Princess Honey Arbilon, Alexa Larrazabal  
(Women's Senior Team Epee)
  6. The team of Alexa Larrazabal, Ashley Harrison, Ivana Salvador, Martina Baccay  
(Women's Junior Team Epee)
  7. The team of Rex dela Cruz Jr., Jian Bautista, Noelito Jose Jr., Lee Ergina  
(Men's Senior Team Epee);<sup>4</sup>

**WHEREAS**, the members of the Philippine National Fencing Team who won bronze medals at the 2023 Southeast Asian Fencing Federation Championships are as follows<sup>5</sup>:

1. The team of Andre Agatep, Enrico Suplico, Ram Jimenez, Tomas Robert Cabrera  
(Men's Senior Team Saber)
2. The team of Maria Flores, Janna Catantan, Miyake Capina, Hannah Belarmino  
(Women's Senior Team Foil)
3. The team of Faber Cabrera, Joey Godbout, Rex dela Cruz Jr., Dexter Ramos  
(Junior Men's Team Epee)
4. The team of Louis Shoemaker, Antonio Manuel, Clyd Guinto, Yllac Guinto  
(Men's Junior Team Foil)
5. Joseph Godbout  
(Men's Junior Individual Epee)
6. Ashley Mae Harrison  
(Women's Junior Individual Epee)
7. Alexa Larrazabal  
(Women's Junior and Senior Individual Epee),
8. Janna Catantan  
(Women's Junior Individual Foil)
9. Hannah Belarmino  
(Cadet Women's Foil)
10. Louis Shoemaker  
(Men's Junior Individual Foil);<sup>6</sup>

<sup>4</sup> <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/sports/othersports/857581/philippines-reaps-medals-in-south-east-asian-fencing-championships/story/>

<sup>5</sup> <https://southeastasiansportsnews.blogspot.com/2023/01/seaff-championships-2023-concludes-today.html#:~:text=The%20Southeast%20Asian%20Fencing%20Federation,overall%20with%20six%20gold%20medals.>

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine National Fencing Team serves as an inspiration for all the aspiring fencers in the country and proves that through perseverance and determination one may succeed in sports;

**WHEREAS**, the victory of the Philippine National Fencing Team is an indication that Filipino athletes have what it takes to build a name in the international sports arena;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine National Fencing Team brought pride and honor to the Philippines for winning the second over-all champion in the 2023 Southeast Asian Fencing Federation Championship, and it is only fitting that their achievement should be accorded proper recognition;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines, to congratulate and commend the Philippine National Fencing Team for winning eight gold medals, seven silver medals and eleven bronze medals, thereby emerging as second-overall champion at the 2023 Southeast Asian Fencing Federation Competition held on January 5 to 13, 2023 in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, and for bringing pride and honor to the country.

*Adopted,*



**CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**

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<sup>6</sup> *ibid*