

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

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SENATE P.S. Resolution No. <u>468</u>

ECEIVED BY:

Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND CONDOLENCES OF THE

SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES ON THE DEATH OF THE FORMER MINISTER
OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, ROBERTO "BOBBY" VELAYO ONGPIN

WHEREAS, Roberto "Bobby" Velayo Ongpin, current founder and chairman of Alphaland Corporation, a real estate developer in the Philippines, sorrowfully passed away on 04 February 2023 at the age of 86;

WHEREAS, Ongpin was born in 1937, graduated cum laude at the Ateneo de Manila University, and acquired a Master's Degree in Business Administration from the Harvard University;

WHEREAS, Ongpin began his professional career as an employee of the country's top and largest auditing firm, Sycip Gorres Velayo and Co. (SGV) in 1964. Two years later, Ongpin was named a managing partner, the firm's youngest ever, serving until 1979, when Ongpin received a phone call from Malacañang Palace, as it eventually turned out, Ongpin had a job interview with then President Ferdinand Marcos Sr.;

WHEREAS, Ongpin, thereafter, served as the youngest Minister for Trade and Industry from 1979 to 1986, during which Ongpin made many contributions to the development of the country, as well as defended the currency in the wake of the 1983 financial crisis;

WHEREAS, after Ongpin's term in the government, Ongpin built businesses and negotiated deals that brought the Shangri-La Group into the Philippines, Tagaytay Highlands, PhilWeb, and Alphaland Corporation, among others, which has brought great advantage to the Philippine economy;

WHEREAS, since 1988, Ongpin has secretly funded thousands of full scholarships to the Ateneo de Manila University, in the name of Ongpin's brother, Jaime, who passed away in 1987, and thus helped thousands of Filipino students in attaining their dreams;

WHEREAS, the whole nation mourns the loss of Ongpin who was one of the top government ministers during the Philippines' worst economic crisis in the 1980s;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to express the profound sympathy and condolences of the Senate of the Philippines on the death of the former Minister of Trade and Industry, Roberto "Bobby" Velayo Ongpin.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the bereaved family of Roberto "Bobby" Velayo Ongpin.

Adopted,

MEE R. MARCOS