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

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SENATE PS. Res. No. <u>498</u>

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

## **RESOLUTION**

## CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT CONTINGENT FOR THEIR VALOR AND ACTS OF SERVICE IN THE RESCUE AND RECOVERY OPERATIONS CURRENTLY BEING CONDUCTED IN TÜRKIYE, FOLLOWING THE MAGNITUDE 7.8 EARTHQUAKE THAT STRUCK THEIR COUNTRY AND SYRIA

**WHEREAS**, last February 6, 2023, a 7.8 magnitude earthquake struck Türkiye and Syria, causing catastrophic damage to properties and infrastructures, as well as numerous casualties and injuries among the people of both countries;

**WHEREAS**, in response to the call for help, the Philippine Government sent a contingent of 82 personnel, composed of members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, Department of Health, Office of Civil Defense, Metro Manila Development Authority and Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority, to aid in the rescue and recovery operations being conducted;

**WHEREAS**, the 82-personnel contingent was composed of 33 Armed Forces of the Philippines members, 21 of which are from the 525th Engineer Combat Battalion, 51st Brigade; 12 from the Air Force 505th Search and Rescue Group, and 31 personnel from the Department of Health, composed of 7 Doctors, 8 Nurses, 2 Medical Technologists, and 2 Pharmacists, as well as other logistical officers;

**WHEREAS**, the contingent also brought goods to donate to the quake victims, including clothing and sleeping kits for winter, and hygiene and sanitary kits, which are much needed by the people affected by the disaster;

**WHEREAS**, through the bravery, dedication, and determination of the Philippine Government contingent, they were able to contribute significantly to the ongoing rescue and recovery operations in Türkiye, providing necessary aid and support to those affected by the earthquake;

**WHEREAS**, their acts of service and valor in service to humanity are worthy of praise and commendation, as they exemplify the spirit of heroism and *bayanihan* that the Filipino people are known for;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved, to commend and congratulate the Philippine Government contingent sent to Türkiye for their outstanding performance and contribution to the ongoing rescue and recovery operations in the aftermath of the 7.8 magnitude earthquake that struck Türkiye and Syria on February 6, 2023;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, to recognize and commend every man and woman of service who are part of the Philippine contingent for their bravery, dedication, and determination in providing aid and support to those affected by the tragedy in Türkiye and Syria;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, to commend and appreciate the contributions of the Philippine Government contingent in the form of goods, such as clothing and sleeping kits for winter, and hygiene and sanitary kits, which were of great help to those affected by the earthquake;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, to extend the deepest sympathies and condolences of the Senate of the Philippines to the victims of the earthquake and their families, and express the solidarity of the Filipino people with the people of Türkiye and Syria in this time of need.

Adopted,

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ANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID

Senator