

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

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SENATE PS. Res. No. <u>660</u>

## Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

## RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE ON THE DEATH OF FORMER SENATOR RODOLFO "PONG" BIAZON

*WHEREAS*, the Honorable Rodolfo "Pong" Biazon, former Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) Chief of Staff (early 1991), Senator (1992-1995; 1998-2010), and Muntinlupa City Representative (2001-2010), passed away on 12 June 2023 at the age of 88;

**WHEREAS**, beginning his journey as a cadet at the Philippine Military Academy (PMA) – Class of 1961, Sen. Biazon steadily ascended the ranks, eventually heading the elite Philippine Marines in 1987. Thereafter, he was appointed as the commanding general of the National Capital Region Defense Command (1998-1990), demonstrating his outstanding leadership skills and dedication to the country and the Filipino people;

**WHEREAS,** by reason of his unwavering commitment and dedication to suppress the 1987 and 1989 military coup attempts against then-President Corazon Aquino as well as his loyalty to the latter, Sen. Biazon was appointed as AFP Vice Chief in 1990 and as AFP Chief-of-Staff in 1991;

*WHEREAS,* following such appointment, Sen. Biazon served as a Senator from 1992-1995 and 1998-2010 and as the Muntinlupa City Representative from 2010-

2016. During his term in the Congress, he showed his commitment to enhance the welfare of the nation by consistently crafting laws and helped in the passage of the following landmark legislations: (i) Republic Act No. 7898 (AFP Modernization Act), (ii) Republic Act. No. 9208 (Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act), and (iii) Republic Act No. 9171 (Rental Reform Act);

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**WHEREAS**, in addition to the abovementioned achievements, Sen. Biazon was also the co-author of various meaningful laws such as the mandatory membership to the PAG-IBIG Fund, establishment of the CARAGA administrative region, and the Home Guaranty Corporation Act, among others;

*WHEREAS,* Sen. Biazon received 26 personal and campaign medals, which include the following: (i) Distinguished Service Star, (ii) Gold Cross Medal, (iii) Outstanding Achievement Medal, and (iv) Bronze Cross Medal;

**WHEREAS,** Sen. Biazon was recognized to be one with brilliant and strategic mind, patriotism, unwavering integrity, and commitment to protect the country's freedom, peace, and democracy as well as to preserve the integrity of the armed forces;

**WHEREAS,** the passing of one of the most dedicated leaders and defenders of our freedom and democracy, who selflessly offered his life to serving the Philippines and its people, is a loss not only to his constituents in Muntinlupa, but the Filipino nation as a whole;

*WHEREAS,* Sen. Biazon's life was one well-lived. For his selfless service, our country will be forever grateful;

*NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,* as it is hereby resolved, the Senate expresses its profound sympathy and sincere condolences on the death of Sen. Rodolfo "Pong" Biazon.

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**RESOLVED, FURTHER,** that a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the bereaved family of the late Sen. Rodolfo "Pong" Biazon.

Adopted,

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MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID Senator