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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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SENATE

P.S. RES. NO. 680

Introduced by Senators **PIA S. CAYETANO** and **ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO**

RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING FILIPINO OLYMPIAN ERNEST JOHN "EJ" OBIENA FOR BEING THE 1ST ASIAN ATHLETE TO JOIN THE EXCLUSIVE "SIX-METER CLUB" AND WINNING GOLD IN THE BERGEN JUMP CHALLENGE IN BRYGGEN, NORWAY

WHEREAS, Filipino Olympian Ernest John "EJ" Obiena made a breakthrough in his athletic career as he broke the Asian, national, and his personal record by clearing a six-meter jump on his first attempt and winning gold in the Bergen Jump Challenge in Bryggen, Norway on 10 July 2023;¹

WHEREAS, his historical feat made him the 1st Asian athlete and 25th person in the world to join an elite list of athletes who have cleared a six-meter jump, making him part of the exclusive "six-meter club", which was formed 32 years ago;²

WHEREAS, according to World Athletics, the association of the Member Federations and international authority for the sport of Athletics worldwide, the six-meter pole vault remains as one of the most elusive barriers in elite athletics;³

WHEREAS, the recent win of 27-year old Obiena, who is currently ranked No. 1 in Asia and No. 3 in the world, made him the best Filipino pole vaulter the country has ever had;⁴

¹ Navarro, J. (2023, June 11). EJ Obiena resets Asian record with 6m breakthrough for gold in Norway. *Inquirer*. <https://sports.inquirer.net/513973/ej-obiena-re-sets-asian-record-finally-clears-6-meters-for-gold-in-norway>

² The six-metre vault: a universal yet exclusive achievement. (2021, January 23). *World Athletics*. <https://worldathletics.org/news/feature/six-metre-pole-vault-athletics-barrier>

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ Terrado, R. (2022, July 28). Pole vaulter EJ Obiena climbs to No. 3 in world rankings. *Spin.ph*. <https://www.spin.ph/athletics/ej-obiena-climbs-to-no-3-in-rankings-after-bronze-in-world-championships-a795-20220728>

WHEREAS, Obiena previously held his personal and the Asian record at 5.94 meters, which he achieved during the World Athletics Championships last July 2022 in Eugene, Oregon where he captured the bronze medal;⁵

WHEREAS, on 3 July, 2023, Obiena became the first Filipino to secure a spot in the 2024 Paris Olympics by achieving the qualification standard of 5.82 meters in the Bauhaus-Galan meet at the Stockholm Olympic Stadium in Sweden;⁶

WHEREAS, with undeniable talent and skills, Obiena brings great honor and pride to the country, showing that perseverance, dedication to one's sport, and hard work are the key pillars to becoming a world-class athlete, serving as the symbol of inspiration to many Filipinos;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Senate of the Philippines congratulates and commends Filipino Olympian Ernest John "EJ" Obiena for being the 1st Asian athlete to join the exclusive "six-meter club" and winning gold in the Bergen Jump Challenge in Bryggen, Norway.

Adopted,



PIA S. CAYETANO



ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO

⁵ Giongco, M. (2022, July 25). EJ Obiena makes history with bronze medal at World Athletics Championships. *Inquirer*.

<https://sports.inquirer.net/471172/ej-obiena-makes-history-with-bronze-medal-at-world-athletics-championships>

⁶ Obiena earns qualification in Paris Olympics. (2023, July 3). *ABS CBN*. <https://news.abs-cbn.com/amp/sports/07/03/23/obiena-earns-qualification-in-paris-olympics>