

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



23 JUL 24 P 1 :25

SENATE

P. S. Res. No. 695

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

RESOLUTION

COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING JAMES ARANAS AND JOHANN CHUA FOR WINNING THE 2023 WORLD CUP OF POOL HELD FROM 27 JUNE TO 02 JULY 2023 IN LUGO, SPAIN AND SECURING FOR THE PHILIPPINES ITS HISTORIC FOURTH TITLE, THE MOST FOR ANY COUNTRY

1 WHEREAS, the Senate of the Philippines, has consistently recognized the
2 outstanding performances of Filipino athletes who participated and won in prestigious
3 international competitions, thereby giving honor and pride to the country;

4 WHEREAS, the World Cup of Pool is an annual international single-elimination
5 tournament for doubles teams in nine-ball pool competition. The 16th edition was held
6 in Paso de Feiras e Congressos de Lugo, Spain and was participated by 32 teams from
7 Albania, Australia, Austria, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Canada, China, Chinese Taipei,
8 Finland, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Hong Kong, Hungary, Italy, Japan, Kuwait,
9 Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Peru, Poland, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Serbia,
10 Singapore, South Korea, Spain, Syria, USA, Vietnam, and the Philippines;

11 WHEREAS, Team Philippines, represented by James Aranas and Johann Chua,
12 emerged as the victors of the prestigious competition, secured for the Philippines its
13 fourth record win, the most for any country, and ended the decade-long title drought
14 after the Dennis Orcollo and Lee Van Corteza took home the crown in 2013;

15 WHEREAS, Aranas and Chua, both 31 years old, entered the tournament
16 unseeded, and became the first unseeded team ever to capture the championship
17 title;

1 WHEREAS, the record-breaking win also reaffirmed the country's standing as
2 the best in the sport, after breaking the tie with China with three previous wins in the
3 tournament's history, following Orcollo and Corteza's victory in 2013 in London,
4 England, and billiards legends Efren "Bata" Reyes and Francisco "Django"
5 Bustamante's successes in 2009 in Manila and in the 2006 inaugural edition held in
6 Newport, Wales;

7 WHEREAS, the duo's remarkable accomplishment started in the early round as
8 they knocked out Francisco Sanchez Ruiz and David Alcaide (Spain), who were the
9 2022 defending champions, in a 7-5 match on June 27th. The Philippine pair once more
10 prevailed against another host country's bets Jose Alberto Delgado and Jonas Souto
11 Comino (Spain) via a convincing win of 7-2 on June 30th;

12 WHEREAS, Aranas and Chua continued their winning streak in the quarter finals
13 as they dominated against the team from Chinese Taipei composed of Ko Pin Yi and
14 Ko Ping Chung in a thrilling 9-8 match. In the semi-finals face-off, they stunned
15 spectators as the Filipinos outplayed Albin Ouschan and Mario He from Austria, who
16 were two-time event titleholders (2019, 2017);

17 WHEREAS, the Aranas-Chua duo proved unstoppable at the finals wherein they
18 conquered Germany's Joshua Filler (ranked number 3 in the world) and Moritz
19 Neuhausen (ranked 31st in the world);

20 WHEREAS, Aranas and Chua's impressive achievement in the international
21 sports stage, which brought immense honor and pride to the country, as well as their
22 masterful display of technical skill, unparalleled teamwork and fortitude against
23 formidable opponents, are feats worthy of recognition from the Philippine Senate;

24 WHEREAS, their story from being underdogs into unexpected champions
25 toppling high-ranking players and defending titleholders and, in the process, setting
26 off the country's resurgence and supremacy in the sport, can inspire the entire nation
27 into overcoming current adversities and challenges;

28 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate, to
29 commend and congratulate James Aranas and Johann Chua for winning the 2023

- 1 World Cup of Pool held from 27 June to 02 July 2023 in Lugo, Spain and securing for
- 2 the Philippines its historic fourth title, the most for any country.

Adopted,



JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA