FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

8 MR 29 % 1

SENATE

P.S. Res. No. ___377

INTRODUCED BY HON, MANNY VILLAR

RESOLUTION COMMENDING MR. FELICIANO JAIME ATIENZA FOR WINNING THE NEW YORK TIMES 2008 ESOL TEACHER OF THE YEAR AWARD

WHEREAS, on 28 March 2008, the New York Times announced the names of the winner and four honorees for the 2008 ESOL (English for Speakers of Other Languages) Teachers of the Year Program;

WHEREAS, Mr. Feliciano Jaime Atienza, known to everyone as "Chito," was declared as the winner of this year's award. Mr. Atienza and the four honorees were recognized at a special ceremony presented at The Times on 31 March 2008;

WHEREAS, now in its second year, the program recognizes ESOL instructors who have consistently gone above and beyond the call of duty to help students learn English and develop the skills needed to create successful new lives in the United States;

WHEREAS, all ESOL teachers who provide instruction to adult students in New York City were eligible for consideration and they were nominated by students, teaching colleagues and administrators;

WHEREAS, the winner and four honorees were chosen by a selection committee of distinguished ESOL advocates from The New York Public Library, Queens Library, City University of New York, Brooklyn Public Library and the Mayor's Office of Adult Education;

WHEREAS, Mr. Atienza is a Filipino Immigrant and a career Tesol (Teacher of English to Speakers of other Languages) professional in New York City;

WHEREAS, he has been an ESOL practitioner with the YMCA International, ELESAIR Project for 22 years and the Queens Library for 10 years;

WHEREAS, Mr. Atienza received his ESL/CO teacher training at the Southeast Asian Refugee Program in the Philippines, a joint project of the UNHCR, ICMC and funded by the US State Department;

WHEREAS, Mr. Atienza has been described as a compassionate professional whose classroom is characterized by a healing and empowering concept of "skinship" and trust;

WHEREAS, he possesses a cheerful "can-do" attitude and time-tested skills as a teacher, teacher trainer, mentor, test-giver and facilitator in the following areas: Diversity and Conflict Management in the ESOL Classroom; Literacy Teacher Training and Cultural Orientation; ESOL Testing and Evaluation; Language Program Development and Implementation; and UNHCR/ICMC Southeast Asian Refugee ESL/CO Programs;

WHEREAS, the sponsor of the award, The New York Times Company, is a leading media company and publisher. It includes The New York Times, the International Herald Tribune, The Boston Globe, 15 other daily newspapers, WQXR-FM and hosts more than 50 Web sites, including NYTimes.com, Boston.com and About.com;

NOW, THERFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES, to commend MR. FELICIANO JAIME ATIENZA for winning the New York Times 2008 ESOL Teacher of the Year Award and for contributing to the pride and honor of the global Filipino.

Adopted.

MANNY VILLAF Senator