

Republic of the Philippines  
Congress of the Philippines

Senate

Manila City

Sixteenth Congress

Second Regular Session



RESOLUTION No. 55

RESOLUTION COMMENDING BUSINESSMAN AND INVENTOR ROGELIO 'VONZ' SANTOS JR., ARCHITECT ROYAL CHRISTOPHER L. PINEDA, AND DESIGNER ANTONIO "BUDJI" C. LAYUG FOR HAVING INITIATED THE *BUTTERFLY HOUSE PROJECT*, A DESIGN-LED APPROACH TO PROVIDE AFFORDABLE, HABITABLE, DURABLE, AND CONVENIENT EMERGENCY SHELTERS FOR DISPLACED FAMILIES, IN LIEU OF THE TRADITIONAL TENTS AND BUNK HOUSES; AND URGING THE GOVERNMENT TO SUPPORT SUCH GOOD DESIGN BY CREATING AN ENVIRONMENT THAT VALUES AND UTILIZES FILIPINO INNOVATION AS A PROBLEM-SOLVING MECHANISM

WHEREAS, a humanitarian issue that has always been prevalent in the country is "internal displacement";

WHEREAS, Internal Displacement is a common phenomenon in the Philippines brought about mostly by natural and man-made calamities, and long-standing insurgencies, among others;

WHEREAS, according to the United Nations Commission on Human Rights, internal displacement — caused mainly by the loss of homes — increases the risk of human trafficking, sexual and gender-based violence, child exploitation and concerns about highly vulnerable sectors, such as elderly people, persons with disability and indigenous populations;

WHEREAS, the recent onslaught of Typhoon Yolanda, the strongest tropical cyclone in the world on record, left thousands homeless;

WHEREAS, Businessman and founder of Butterfly.PH, Rogelio 'Vonz' Santos Jr., Architect Royal Christopher L. Pineda and Designer Antonio "Budji" C. Layug teamed up to design a solution to the state of homelessness resulting from internal displacement, such as that caused by Typhoon Yolanda;

WHEREAS, the "Butterfly House" is a human-centered innovation, which aims to provide affordable, habitable, durable, and convenient emergency shelters for displaced families;

WHEREAS, the Butterfly house is a new, innovative steel-framed housing structure that can be folded for compact shipping and storage, and unfolded into an immediately livable structure;

WHEREAS, the traditional response to occurrences of internal displacement is for the government to build interim tent cities or bunk houses, which, in some cases, are inadequate, of substandard quality, uninhabitable, expensive, and mired with corruption;

WHEREAS, the Butterfly House Project is a private-sector initiative, which aims to provide a corruption-proof housing solution to the internally displaced, by providing strict quality control, thereby ensuring that each Butterfly House is a product of integrity;

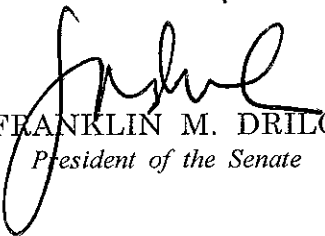
WHEREAS, a commendation is in order for the Butterfly Team: Founder and inventor Rogelio 'Vonz' Santos Jr., Architect Royal Christopher L. Pineda, and Designer Antonio "Budji" C. Layug for designing ultimately for social innovation,

and proving once again the innate ingenuity and resourcefulness of Filipinos in addressing socio-economic problems;

WHEREAS, the government, through a national design policy, should support good designs such as this Butterfly House Project, by creating an environment that values and utilizes design as a problem-solving mechanism and by considering Butterfly Houses as a better alternative to tents or bunk houses: Now, therefore, be it


*Resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines, To commend businessman and inventor Rogelio 'Vonz' Santos Jr., Architect Royal Christopher L. Pineda, and Designer Antonio "Budji" C. Layug for having initiated the Butterfly House Project, a design-led approach to provide affordable, habitable, durable, and convenient emergency shelters for displaced families, in lieu of the traditional tents and bunk houses; and urging the government to support such good design by creating an environment that values and utilizes Filipino innovation as a problem-solving mechanism.*

Adopted,



FRANKLIN M. DRILON  
*President of the Senate*

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on September 22, 2014.



OSCAR G. YABES  
*Secretary of the Senate*