Republic of the Philippines Congress of the Philippines

Senate

Pasay City

Sixteenth Congress

Second Regular Session

Resolution No. 63

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCE OF THE SENATE ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE JUAN M. FLAVIER, FORMER SENATOR OF THE 10TH, 11TH, 12TH AND 13TH CONGRESS (1995-2007)

WHEREAS, the Honorable Juan M. Flavier, former Senator of the Republic (1995-2007) and former Secretary of Health (1992-1995), passed away on October 30, 2014, at the age of 79;

WHEREAS, born in Tondo to parents of humble origins and raised in a mining town in the Mountain Province, he earned his way through school as a shoeshine boy, newspaper boy, waiter and tutor until he earned a college degree in Medicine in 1960 from the University of the Philippines and a master's degree in Public Health from Johns Hopkins University in 1969;

WHEREAS, dedicated to uplift the plight of the poor, the young Dr. Flavier opted to serve as a doctor to the barrios bringing health care and healing to the common tao in the rural communities of Nueva Ecija and Cavite, his success and popularity of which earned for him the presidency of the Philippine Rural Reconstruction Movement in 1967, and the presidency of the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction from 1978 to 1992;

WHEREAS, tapped by then President Fidel Ramos to be his Secretary of Health in 1992, Dr. Flavier formally launched the "Doctors to the Barrios" Program that challenged graduates of medicine to work in isolated communities throughout Luzon, Visayas and Mindanao;

WHEREAS, with his vast experience in public health administration, effective leadership and communication, and his unique brand of public health service, he brought to the Department of Health a new vigor, a new vision under the banner "Let's DOH it!" that inspired the department to launch successful national health projects easily remembered by the use of slogans such as Oplan Alis Disis, Patak Pinoy, Ligtas Tigdas, 23 in 93, Kontra Kolera, Iwas Tamis, Iwas Diabetis and Sangkap Pinoy, and Kung Sila'y Mahal N'yo, Magplano;

WHEREAS, Dr. Flavier received numerous awards such as Ten Outstanding Young Men (1967), Ten Outstanding Physicians in the Community Service (1992), Gold medal for World Tobacco or Health Award (1994), Dangal ng Bayan Award (1994), International Humanitarian Award (1994), International Peace Award (1997) and The Golden Heart Presidential Award (1998);

WHEREAS, a reluctant candidate, he nevertheless placed fifth in the 1995 senatorial elections because the people acknowledged and appreciated his outstanding work as a Cabinet member, and placed second when he was reelected in 2001 for his excellent performance as a senator during his first term;

WHEREAS, as a senator of the 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th Congress, the hardworking Senator Flavier registered a perfect attendance during the sessions and authored or coauthored landmark laws which promoted public health care and disease prevention and improved the quality of life of the people, some of which were the Traditional and Alternative Health Care Act of 1995, Plant Variety Protection Act, Indigenous People's Rights Act, Poverty Alleviation Act, Barangay Micro-Business Enterprise Act, Philippine Nursing Act, and the Tobacco Regulation Act;

WHEREAS, during his term, he chaired various key Senate committees such as the Committees on Health and Demography, on Education, Arts and Culture, and on Cultural Communities, continuously championing and supporting the health agenda of the Senate through reforms in health care delivery, health care regulation and health care financing;

WHEREAS, Senator Flavier was elected Senate President Pro Tempore in August 2002 in the 12th Congress and elected again to the same prestigious post in the Senate on July 26, 2004, at the start of the 13th Congress, making him the longest serving Senate President Pro Tempore since the 8th Congress;

WHEREAS, bidding goodbye to this august Chamber during the *sine die* adjournment of the 13th Congress on June 7, 2007, Senator Flavier, ever humble, uttered these simple but eloquent words: "As I go, I will leave part of myself in each one of you, and as you stay, I will bring with me part of you wherever I go";

WHEREAS, the death of the illustrious doctor and senator is a great loss not only to his bereaved family but also to the millions of Filipinos whom he loved and served so well: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, To express, as it hereby expresses, its profound sympathy and sincere condolence on the death of the Honorable Juan M. Flavier, former Senator of the 10th, 11th, 12th and 13th Congress (1995-2007).

Resolved, further, That a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the bereaved family of the former senator.

Adopted,

FRANKLIN M. DRILON
President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on November 17, 2014.

OSCAR G. YABES
Secretary of the Senate