

Republic of the Philippines  
Congress of the Philippines  
**Senate**

Manila City

Seventeenth Congress

First Regular Session



RESOLUTION NO. 44

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND  
SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF  
THE SENATE ON THE DEATH OF THE  
HONORABLE LETICIA RAMOS-SHAHANI,  
FORMER SENATOR (1987-1998) AND SENATE  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE (1993-1996)

WHEREAS, Leticia Ramos-Shahani, a former Senator (1987-1998) and the first woman Senate President Pro Tempore (1993-1996), passed away on March 20, 2017, at the age of 87;

WHEREAS, born on September 30, 1929, in Lingayen, Pangasinan, to Angela Valdez, a public school teacher, and Narciso Ramos, a lawyer who later became an assemblyman

and the Foreign Affairs Secretary who co-founded the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), she was a sister to Fidel V. Ramos, the twelfth President of the Republic of the Philippines; a wife to the late writer and professor, Ranjee Shahani; and a mother to their three children: Lila, Ranjit, and Chanda;

WHEREAS, a woman of exceptional academic attainment, she earned her Bachelor of Arts in English Literature from Wellesley College in Massachusetts, USA; Master of Arts in Comparative Literature from Columbia University in New York, USA; and her Doctor of Philosophy in Comparative Literature and Sociology from the University of Paris in France as a French Government Scholar with her thesis meriting the highest honors;

WHEREAS, a distinguished educator, she taught a wide array of courses such as English Literature, French, Spanish, Comparative Literature, Humanities, and Social Psychology; and served as a faculty member of the University of the Philippines, as Dean of the College of International Humanitarian and Development Studies of Miriam College, and also as Dean of the Graduate School of the Lyceum of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, a notable personality in the international arena, she held various positions in the Philippine Foreign Service, remarkably as the first woman Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Romania and to the Commonwealth of Australia; in the United Nations, as the Chairperson of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, as Assistant Secretary-General for Social Development and Humanitarian Affairs, as Secretary-General of the Seventh Congress on Crime Prevention and Treatment of Offenders in Milan, Italy, and of the Third World Conference on Women in Nairobi, Kenya; and after the 1986 People Power Revolution, she was appointed Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, an esteemed Senator, she held various key positions in the Senate such as Chairperson of the Committees on Social Justice, Welfare and Development; Women and Family Relations, Agriculture; Foreign Relations;

and Education, Culture and Arts; as member of the Commission on Appointments; and as Senate President Pro Tempore, the first woman to be elected thereto;

WHEREAS, an accomplished lawmaker, she was instrumental in the enactment of quality legislative measures that gave emphasis on education, economics, and natural resources and environmental protection, foremost of which are R. A. 7356, which created the National Commission for Culture and the Arts; R. A. 7227, otherwise known as the "Bases Conversion and Development Act"; R. A. 7157, otherwise known as the "Philippine Foreign Service Act of 1991"; R. A. 6725, which strengthens the prohibition of discrimination against women in the workplace; R. A. 8505, otherwise known as the "Rape Victim Assistance and Protection Act of 1998"; R. A. 8550, otherwise known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998"; and R. A. 6977, otherwise known as the "Magna Carta for Small Enterprises"; she was likewise credited for initiating and advocating for the Moral Recovery Program aimed at integrating ethical values into nation building and governance;

WHEREAS, a women's rights advocate in the Senate, she successfully introduced the mandatory five percent allocation in the annual General Appropriations Act for gender-responsive projects in accordance with R. A. 7192, otherwise known as the "Women in Development and Nation Building Act";


WHEREAS, an unrelenting public servant, after her tenure in the government, she continued campaigning for the upliftment of the people, such as establishing the Shahani Gatas ng Kalabaw Products, Inc., a dairy processing and marketing entity for pasteurization and packaging of fresh carabao's milk and "kesong puti" in Pangasinan, providing much needed extra income for farmers in the locality as well as in the neighboring local government units;

WHEREAS, her passing is a great loss not only to her bereaved family and loved ones but also to the entire Filipino nation: Now, therefore, be it


*Resolved by the Senate, To express, as it hereby expresses, its profound sympathy and sincere condolences on the death of the Honorable Leticia Ramos-Shahani, former Senator (1987-1998) and Senate President Pro Tempore (1993-1996).*

*Resolved, further, That a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the bereaved family of former Senator Leticia Ramos-Shahani.*

Adopted,

  
AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III  
*President of the Senate*

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 3, 2017.

  
LUTGARDO B. BARBO  
*Secretary of the Senate*