

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines
Senate
Pasay City

Seventeenth Congress

Third Regular Session



RESOLUTION NO. 144

RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE HONORABLE
SENATOR PANFILO M. LACSON FOR HIS
INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE
SENATE AND THE FILIPINO PEOPLE DURING
HIS TERM AS SENATOR

WHEREAS, the Honorable Panfilo M. Lacson, a dedicated public servant and a staunch advocate of honest, competent and responsive governance, has served as Senator during the 17th and 18th Congresses (2016-2022);

WHEREAS, a distinguished and indefatigable member of the Senate, he was elected Chairperson of various key Senate Committees, such as National Defense and Security, Peace,

Unification and Reconciliation; Accounts; Games and Amusement; and Public Order and Dangerous Drugs;

WHEREAS, as Chairperson of the Committees on National Defense and Security, and Public Order and Dangerous Drugs, he authored and sponsored several laws affecting the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Philippine National Police (PNP) as well as the security of the country, particularly Republic Act (RA) No. 11709 or the "Act Strengthening Professionalism and Promoting Continuity of Policies and Modernization Initiatives in the AFP", which prescribes a fixed three-year term for the AFP Chief of Staff and senior officers and ends the "revolving door policy" or the practice of appointing key AFP officials based on patronage politics or *palakasan* instead of merit; RA No. 11200 or the "PNP Rank Classification Act", which provides for a rank classification in the PNP and eliminates confusion on how PNP officers must be addressed; and RA No. 11409 or the "Anti-Terrorism Act of 2020", which seeks to prevent, prohibit and penalize terrorism;

WHEREAS, he also authored RA No. 11691 or the "Judiciary Marshals Act", with the end in view of ensuring the safety and security of the members of the Judiciary, judicial personnel, and court assets, in order for the Judiciary to function independently and impartially in upholding the rule of law and in preserving the rights and guarantees granted by the Constitution; RA No. 11055 or the "National Identification System Act", which is meant to provide Filipino citizens and resident aliens a single and unified proof of identity to simplify public and private transactions and deter criminality;

WHEREAS, he strongly supported the enactment of landmark legislations such as: RA No. 11476 or the "GMRC and Values Education Act", which seeks to inculcate in the minds of the students the basic tenets of good manners and right conduct, obedience to law, nationalism and other universal values; and RA No. 11469 or the "Bayanihan to Heal As One Act" which provides for COVID-19 response and recovery interventions;

WHEREAS, a champion of empowering local government units, he was instrumental in the enactment of RA No. 11683 which exempts municipalities applying for cityhood from the land and population requirements if it has a locally generated average annual income of at least One hundred million pesos (P100 million) for two consecutive years;

WHEREAS, a known fierce watchdog of the national budget and crusader for the abolition of the pork barrel system, he exposed questionable and needless appropriations in several appropriations bills, always pushing for the deletion of the pork barrel and other dubious insertions and lump sum budget allocations during plenary debates;

WHEREAS, unflinching in his fight against corruption and wrongdoings in line with his personal credo "What is right must be kept right; what is wrong must be set right", he was responsible for exposing and calling for investigations into anomalous activities in the government, such as: the anomalous purchase of overpriced COVID-19 pandemic-related medical supplies involving the Department of Health officials and Pharmally Pharmaceutical Corporation executives; the continued operations of *jueteng* in the country; irregularities in the multibillion-peso Quedancor Swine Program; the chopper scam where second-hand helicopters were sold as brand new to the PNP; a plan by the Social Security System to channel workers' pension funds into a government stimulus program; and the *tara* list and *payola* in the Bureau of Customs, among others;

WHEREAS, in recognition of his 50 years of dedicated, exemplary and unblemished service to the country characterized by his faithful adherence to the virtues of courage, loyalty and integrity, the Philippine Military Academy (PMA), his alma mater, has conferred on him the Lifetime Achievement Award;


WHEREAS, for his immeasurable contributions to the Chamber's fruitful achievements during the 17th and 18th Congresses of the Philippines, he truly deserves the recognition and appreciation of the Senate: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, To commend, as it hereby commends, the Honorable Senator Panfilo M. Lacson for his invaluable contributions to the Senate and the Filipino people during his term as Senator.

Adopted,


VICENTE C. SOTTO III
President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on June 1, 2022.


MYRA MARIE D. VILLARICA
Secretary of the Senate
