

Republic of the Philippines  
Congress of the Philippines  
**Senate**  
Pasay City

Nineteenth Congress

Third Regular Session



RESOLUTION No. 128

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SINCERE APPRECIATION  
AND COMMENDATION TO SENATOR JUAN  
EDGARDO ANGARA FOR HIS INVALUABLE  
CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SENATE AND THE  
NATION AS A SENATOR OF THE REPUBLIC  
OF THE PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, Senator Juan Edgardo “Sonny” Angara, a seasoned legislator who has upheld the highest standards of public service during his terms as Representative of the Lone District of Aurora (2004 to 2007; 2007 to 2010; and 2010 to 2013) and as Senator (2013 to 2019; 2019 to 2024), was appointed as Secretary of Education on 19 July 2024;

WHEREAS, he holds a Bachelor of Science in Economics (International Relations) from the London School of Economics and Political Science, a Bachelor of Laws from the University of the Philippines College of Law, and a Master of Laws from Harvard Law School;

WHEREAS, building upon the brilliant legacy of his parents, former Senate President and University of the Philippines President Edgardo J. Angara and former Chairperson of the Cultural Center of the Philippines and educator Gloria Manalang-Angara, Senator Sonny Angara has championed accessible quality education for the Filipino youth, pushing for the passage of landmark education measures such as the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education (UAQTE) Act, the Unified Student Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education (UniFAST) Act, the Student Fare Discount Act, the Free Kindergarten Law, the Ladderized Education Act, the Inclusive Education Act, the Enhanced Basic Education Act, and the Second Congressional Commission on Education (EDCOM II) Act;

WHEREAS, as a Senator, he authored or sponsored over 340 laws, with a particular focus on education, youth empowerment, healthcare, labor, finance, local government, and good governance;

WHEREAS, the appointment of Senator Angara as the Secretary of the Department of Education may be a great loss to the Senate, but is a big boost to the country's education system, given his track record as a legislator who is steadfast in his efforts to improve access to education, which he has identified as our most important tool against poverty;

WHEREAS, believing in the Filipino youth as the future of the nation, Senator Angara authored the law establishing the Second Congressional Commission on Education, for which he was appointed Commissioner, a role that saw him actively engaged in the comprehensive review of the nation's education landscape and in the formulation of solutions to problems besetting the country's education sector, with the aim of empowering Filipino students to reach global standards for reading, mathematics, and science literacy;

WHEREAS, as Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Finance in the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> Congresses, Senator Angara has been instrumental in shaping our national development initiatives as he diligently and ably steered the passage of the most important piece of legislation in the country the annual General Appropriations Act, especially within the context of the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, for which he also spearheaded the passage of key measures such as the Bayanihan to Recover as One Act, the COVID-19 Vaccination Program Act, and the Public Health Emergency Benefits and Allowances for Health Care Workers Act;

WHEREAS, under his leadership as Chairperson of the Committee on Finance, he also pursued the passage of the Marawi Siege Victims Compensation Act of 2022, which provides reparation and compensation to families affected by the armed conflict in Marawi; the New Government Procurement Act which paves the way for a more efficient and transparent use of public funds; the Tatak Pinoy (Proudly Filipino) Act, in line with his long-held advocacy to bridge the public and private sectors toward building more competitive industries for Filipino goods and services, leading to higher job creation and economic growth; and the Salary Standardization Law of 2019, which resulted in increased salaries for civil servants to address the rising costs of essential daily expenses such as food, transportation, and education;

WHEREAS, with his expertise in government finance and taxation, he also chaired the Senate Committee on Ways and Means in the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress, through which he successfully pushed for much-needed but also much-debated tax reforms, including the Tax Incentives Management and Transparency Act (TIMTA), the Estate Tax Amnesty Act, the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA), and the Tax Reform for Acceleration and Inclusion (TRAIN) Act;

WHEREAS, as the Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Labor, Employment, and Human Resources Development, he led the passage of vital laws to protect and empower Filipino workers, including the Expanded Public Employment Service Office (PESO) Act, the Seafarers Protection Act, the Philippine Green Jobs Act, the JobStart Philippines Act, and

the Expanded Special Program for Employment of Students (SPES) Act;

WHEREAS, a passionate champion of youth empowerment, he chaired the Senate Committee on Youth, where he worked for the passage of the *Sangguniang Kabataan* Reform Act, to enjoin more Filipino youth toward the path of civic engagement and public service;

WHEREAS, Senator Angara also fulfilled diplomatic duties in the Senate, particularly as President of the Philippines-Spain Friendship Association, ensuring that Philippine-Spanish relations are strengthened through the annual commemoration of the Philippine-Spanish Friendship Day on the anniversary of the Siege of Baler;

WHEREAS, an ardent basketball enthusiast, he was a member of the Senate Sentinels basketball team that clinched the inaugural championship victory at the UNTV Cup Executive Face-off in 2023, even emerging as a Mythical 5 player of the tournament;

WHEREAS, Senator Angara brought extraordinary industry and prolificacy to the Senate, with his contributions having a significant impact on the overall performance of the entire institution, and for this he deserves the sincere appreciation and commendation of this Chamber: Now, therefore, be it

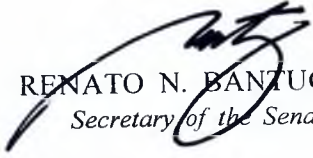
*Resolved by the Senate of the Philippines, To express its sincere appreciation and commendation to Senator Juan Edgardo Angara for his invaluable contributions to the Senate and the nation as a Senator of the Republic of the Philippines.*

Adopted,



FRANCIS "CHIZ" G. ESCUDERO  
*President of the Senate*

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on  
July 30, 2024.



RENATO N. BANTUG Jr.  
*Secretary of the Senate*

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