

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines
Senate
Pasay City

Nineteenth Congress

Second Regular Session



RESOLUTION NO. 78

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE RODOLFO "PONG" G. BIAZON, FORMER SENATOR, CONGRESSMAN, AND CHIEF OF STAFF OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, the Honorable Rodolfo "Pong" G. Biazon, former Senator, Congressman, and military man, passed away on Independence Day, 12 June 2023, at the age of 88;

WHEREAS, born from humble beginnings on 14 April 1935 in Batac, Ilocos Norte, to spouses Rufino Biazon and Juliana Gaspar, the young Pong Biazon lost his father at an early age and endured great hardship particularly during the

Japanese regime, to help his family earn a living – peddling food, collecting and selling used bottles and newspapers;

WHEREAS, unmindful of the hardship and very low condition in life, the young Biazon was determined to pursue his tertiary education as a self-supporting student and enrolled in the mechanical engineering course at the FEATI University;

WHEREAS, in 1957, despite passing the examinations for the US Military Academy in West Point and the US Naval Academy in Maryland, he chose to enter the Philippine Military Academy (PMA), where he graduated as part of Class 1961;

WHEREAS, as a military man, he proved himself to be an able and effective leader, serving as Superintendent of the PMA from 1986 to 1987, Commandant of the Philippine Marine Corps (PMC) from 1987 to 1989, Commanding General of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) National Capital Region (NCR) Defense Command from 1988 to 1990, AFP Vice Chief of Staff from 1990 to 1991, and ultimately as AFP Chief of Staff in 1991;

WHEREAS, as Commanding General of the AFP NCR Defense Command and Commandant of the PMC, he rose to prominence when he successfully led the Marines and other civilian officers in thwarting the *coup d'état* attempt staged by the Reform the Armed Forces Movement (RAM);

WHEREAS, throughout his military career, he received numerous awards and recognition for his bravery and exemplary service, chief among them the Philippine Republic Presidential Unit Citation, the Distinguished Service Star, and the Gold Cross Medal, as well as various medals for Anti-Dissidence Campaigns across the country;

WHEREAS, after retiring from military service, he continued to devote himself to public service, being elected Senator for three terms (1992-1995, 1998-2004, and 2004-2010), during which time he served as Chairperson of the Senate Committees on National Defense and Security; Urban Planning, Housing, and Resettlement; as well as Vice Chairperson of the Committees on Agriculture and Food and

Foreign Relations, while also being a member of fifteen other Senate committees, as well as the Commission on Appointments;

WHEREAS, he also extended his legislative expertise in broader areas of parliamentary cooperation, serving as the President of the Regional Council for Asia Global Parliamentarians on Habitat and the co-Chairperson of the Philippine Legislators Committee on Population and Development Foundation, Inc. (PLCPD);

WHEREAS, as Senator, he was known to be a steadfast champion of decent and affordable housing and of security and defense, and was instrumental in the passage of several landmark measures such as the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act of 2003, the Rental Reform Act of 2002, the Comprehensive and Integrated Shelter Finance Act of 1994, the AFP Modernization Act, the Act amending Presidential Decree No. 1752 to make membership in the Pag-IBIG Fund mandatory; and the Home Guaranty Corporation Act of 2000;

WHEREAS, after his stint in the Senate, he served as Member of the House of Representatives for the lone district of Muntinlupa for two terms: 2010-2013 and 2013-2016;

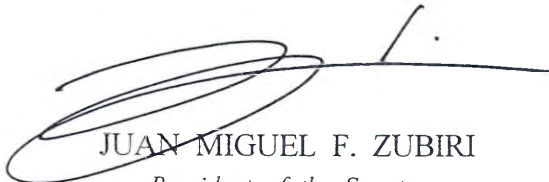
WHEREAS, the retired soldier never stopped being a patriot, continuing to offer invaluable insight and expertise on matters of national concern, such as the Marawi Siege and the West Philippine Sea dispute;

WHEREAS, true to the saying that "old soldiers never die, they just fade away," the legendary military general and legislator, whose bravery and patriotism in protecting and defending Philippine freedom and democracy is beyond compare, and whose sincerity and dedication in serving the country inspired and touched the hearts of Filipinos, will be mourned and remembered by the Filipino people and the nation: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the Philippines, To express its profound sympathy and sincere condolences on the death of the Honorable Rodolfo "Pong" G. Biazon, former Senator, Congressman, and Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

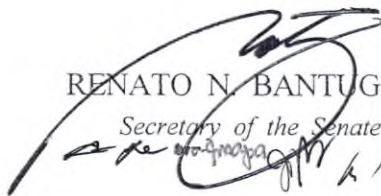
Resolved, further, That a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the bereaved family of the late Senator Rodolfo "Pong" G. Biazon.

Adopted,



JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI
President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on August 1, 2023.



RENATO N. BANTUG Jr.
Secretary of the Senate