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SENATE

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INTRODUCED BY HON. ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO, HON. PIA S. CAYETANO AND HON. VICENTE C. SOTTO III

**RESOLUTION**

**CONGRATULATING THE IGLESIA FILIPINA INDEPENDIENTE (IFI), UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF HIS EMINENCE, THE MOST REVEREND EPHRAIM S. FAJUTAGANA, ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 109<sup>TH</sup> FOUNDING ANNIVERSARY ON AUGUST 3, 2011**

*Whereas*, the Iglesia Filipina Independiente or the Philippine Independent Church is "a congregation of new men educated in and liberated by the teaching of Christ, dedicated to the worship of God in spirit and truth, nourished and sustained in the Eucharist, and commissioned to be witnesses to God's love in the world";

*Whereas*, religious institutions are important in the life of our nation as they play a major role in the proper moral formation of the people, espousing doctrines which are complementary to the principles of responsible citizenship. In the light of our modern culture and the highly materialistic world we live in, religious institutions become more relevant as believers focus on the essence of spirituality and higher purpose of life i.e. serving a Supreme Being and their fellowmen;

*Whereas*, the Iglesia Filipina Independiente comprises the third largest Christian group in the Philippines after the Roman Catholic Church and the Iglesia ni Kristo;

*Whereas*, the shining display of nationalism and ardent longing for religious freedom of its founders paved the way for the formal establishment of IFI on August 3, 1902, an eventful day which not only marked the installation of Gregorio Aglipay as the Church's first Obispo Maximo (Supreme Bishop) but resplendent of the triumph of the Filipino pride and spirit and a glorious quest for genuine independence and self rule;

*Whereas*, the esteemed success being reaped by the Iglesia Filipina Independiente today is built to a great extent by the strength of the religious conviction of its leaders and fortified by all the challenges which have been jointly and ably weathered by its clergy and its faithful for more than a century now;

*Whereas*, the Iglesia Filipina Independiente, through its diocesan programs, continuously endeavors to develop and harness the capacities of its Local Churches to be able to respond more effectively to the social and ecumenical concerns of its flock as well as of other Filipinos;

*Whereas*, the Iglesia Filipina Independiente's recent manifestation of its commitment to undertake concrete steps to be able to contribute more effectively in ending the culture of impunity and human rights violations in the country is a highly commendable act on the part of the IFI, and on any other religious organization for that matter, which seeks to partner with the government in the latter's effort to build a more just and peaceful Philippine society;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, to congratulate the Iglesia Filipina Independiente under the leadership of His Eminence, The Most Reverend Ephraim S. Fajutagana, on the occasion of its 109<sup>th</sup> Founding Anniversary on August 3, 2011.

Adopted,



**ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO**  
Senator

Univ. of Cebu  
Prin. of Cebu