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FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Third Regular Session

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SENATE

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P. S. Res. No. <u>1249</u>

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE AS IT JOINS THE NATION IN MOURNING THE LOSS OF A TRUE FILIPINO WHO STOOD FOR DEMOCRACY, TRUTH AND PEACE, FORMER PRESIDENT CORAZON COJUANGCO AQUINO

Whereas, Maria Corazon Cojuangco was born on January 25, 1933, in Paniqui, Tarlac;

Whereas, she was the widow of former Senator Benigno S. Aquino Jr., an opposition leader and long-time critic of the Marcos administration, who was assassinated on the tarmac of the Manila International Airport upon returning from exile on August 21, 1983;

Whereas, her husband's assassination sparked a nationwide opposition movement that thrust her into the role of national leader;

Whereas, Mrs. Aquino, with the backing of the military, rallied the Filipinos in the 1986 people power revolt that toppled the 20-year regime of strongman Ferdinand Marcos and catapulted her to the presidency on February 25, 1986;

Whereas, she became an international icon of democracy after her victory triggered a wave of pro-democracy movements around the world;

Whereas, Mrs. Aquino was named Woman of the Year by Time Magazine in 1986;

Whereas, in 1998, she received the prestigious Ramon Magsaysay Award for International Understanding;

Whereas, the six-year administration of President Aquino, which ended on June 30, 1992, saw the enactment of a new Philippine Constitution and several significant legal reforms, including a new agrarian reform law;

Whereas, she died of cardiopulmonary arrest after complications of colon cancer at the age of 76 on August 1, 2009, 3:18am at the Makati Medical Center; Now therefore be it

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, expressing the sense of the Senate as it joins the nation in mourning the loss of a true Filipino who stood for democracy, truth and peace, former President Corazon Cojuangco Aquino.

Adopted,

MANN VILLAR Senator