

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Third Regular Session )

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

9 AUG 26 2:25

**SENATE**

**P. S. RES. NO. 1326**

RECEIVED BY

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**Introduced by Senator Gordon**

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**RESOLUTION**

**EXPRESSING THE SINCERE CONDOLENCE OF THE PHILIPPINE SENATE  
ON THE DEATH OF KIM DAE-JUNG, FORMER PRESIDENT OF SOUTH  
KOREA**

**WHEREAS**, the Honorable Kim Dae-Jung, the 8<sup>th</sup> President of the Republic of Korea and the Nobel Peace Prize Winner for the year 2000, peacefully joined his Creator on August 18, 2009;

**WHEREAS**, after he graduated at the top of his class from Mokpo Commercial High School in 1943, the son of a middle class farmer worked for a Japanese-owned shipping company and later became its owner;

**WHEREAS**, as the Syngman Rhee Administration had noticeably become increasingly dictatorial, he decided to run in the 1954 election for the National Assembly but lost;

**WHEREAS**, he finally won a seat in the National Assembly in 1961 but three days after the successful military coup d'etat led by Major General Park Chung Hee the assembly was later dissolved;

**WHEREAS**, he was elected again to the National Assembly in the subsequent elections 1963 and 1967 and went on to become an opposition leader, serving as the spokesman for the Democratic Party in 1965 and later became the Chairman of the party's Policy Planning Committee;

**WHEREAS**, fearlessly leading the move against the scheme of then President Park Chung Hee to revise the Constitution to be eligible to run for a third term, he was chosen as the presidential candidate of the New Democratic Party in 1971, running unsuccessfully against the all-powerful incumbent president;

**WHEREAS**, when President Park imposed martial law, banned all political activities and rammed the so-called Yushin (revitalizing reform) Constitution through the National Assembly, he strenuously objected to these extra-legal measures and led campaigns against Park's regime in the U.S. and Japan;

**WHEREAS**, in August 1973, he was abducted from a Tokyo hotel by agents of the Korean Central Intelligence Agency with the plot to "eliminate" him;

**WHEREAS**, on March 1, 1976, the indomitable opposition leader joined other democracy fighters in issuing the "Independence Day Declaration for Democratization," which touched off yet another wave of pro-democracy demonstrations in Korea;

**WHEREAS**, soon after the assassination of President Park in October 1979, his civil and political rights were restored but, after a few months of political unrest, he was again thrown into prison on charges of treason;

**WHEREAS**, in December 1982, his prison term was suspended, allowing him to travel to the United States where he stayed until 1985;

**WHEREAS**, upon his return in early 1985, he was immediately put under house arrest but his return intensified the nationwide pro-democracy movement;

**WHEREAS**, in June 1987, after he was cleared of all outstanding charges and his civil and political rights were fully restored, he ran and was defeated in presidential elections in 1987 and 1992;

**WHEREAS**, in December 1997, he ran again and was elected to the presidency, winning 40.3 percent of the votes, thereby becoming the eight President of the Republic of Korea;

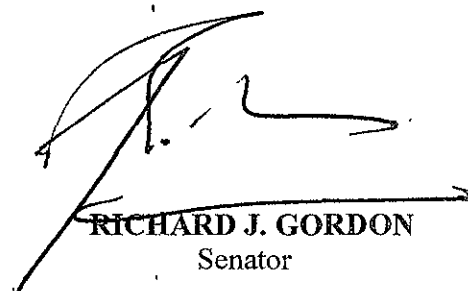
**WHEREAS**, taking over the government in the midst of an unprecedented financial crisis, President Kim devoted himself to the task of economic recovery and managed to pull the country back from the brink of bankruptcy;

**WHEREAS**, his vision for the Korean people led him to pursue the "Sunshine" engagement policy toward North Korea, thus paving the way for a joint declaration he signed with North Korean leader Kim Jong-il on June 15, 2000;

**WHEREAS**, the death of a great leader who epitomized the three key values of South Korea in the past four decades: democracy, economic justice, and reunification of the Korean peninsula, is a great loss not only to the people of South Korea but also for the rest of the peace-loving nations in the world: Now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, To express, as it hereby expresses, its sincere condolence on the death of Kim Dae-Jung, former President of South Korea.**

*Adopted,*



**RICHARD J. GORDON**  
Senator