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SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE) REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES) Second Regular Session

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SENATE

P. S. R. NO. 1125

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE VATICAN CITY, HOLY SEE, AND THE CATHOLIC BISHOP CONFERENCE OF THE PHILIPPINES FOR UPLIFTING THE SPIRIT OF AND STRENGTHENING THE CATHOLIC FAITH OF THE FILIPINO PEOPLE

WHEREAS, the Philippines encountered numerous natural and man-made calamities for the past years;

WHEREAS, despite the natural calamities and man-made incidents that caused the loss and destruction of life and belongings of many Filipino people, their spirit remains unfailing;

WHEREAS, Archbishop Jorge Mario Bergoglio also known as Holy Father Francis, was elected as the Supreme Pontiff of the Catholic Church on March 13, 2013;

WHEREAS, the first Pope of the America, Jorge Mario Bergoglio hails from Argentina. The 76-year-old Jesuit Archbishop of Buenos Aires is a prominent figure throughout the continent, yet remains a simple pastor who is deeply loved by his diocese, throughout which he has travelled extensively on the underground and by bus during the 15 years of his episcopal ministry.¹

WHEREAS, the leader of the world's 1.2 billion Catholics Pope Francis, made a five-day Apostolic Journey and State Visit on

¹ http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/biography/documents/papa-francesco-biografia-bergoglio.html

January 15-19, 2015 in the Philippines with the theme "Mercy and Compassion";

WHEREAS, Pope Francis declared that Filipino culture has been shaped by the imagination of faith. Filipinos everywhere are known for their love of God, their fervent piety and their warm devotion to Our Lady and her rosary. This great heritage contains a powerful missionary potential. It is the way in which the Filipino people has inculturated the Gospel and continues to embrace its message;

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the poor weather during his visit, Pope Francis showed enthusiasm, sympathy and concern to the Filipino people.

WHEREAS, his inclination of not showing tiredness nor stress all throughout his visit was felt by the Filipino people who equally showed their passion in attending every event during the apostolic visit;

WHEREAS, the recent apostolic visit of Holy Father Francis heightened the spirit and faith of Filipino people who suffered loss and the catholic community in general, through his homilies, declarations and presence in the Philippines;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Senate of the Philippines, to commend The Vatican City, Holy See, and The Catholic Bishop Conference of the Philippines for uplifting the spirit and strengthening the Catholic faith of the Filipino people.

ADOPTED,

JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO