

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE ) REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES ) Second Regular Session 15 JAN 21 P6:50

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## SENATE

P. S. R. NO. 1126

## INTRODUCED BY SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

## RESOLUTION

COMMENDING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE, ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES, METRO MANILA DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY, PRESIDENTIAL SECURITY GROUP, DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS, CATHOLIC BISHOP CONFERENCE OF THE PHILIPPINES, DEPARTMENT OF INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, CITY OF MANILA, CITY OF PASAY, CITY OF TACLOBAN AND PALO, LEYTE, PHILIPPINE RED CROSS AND OTHER ORGANIZERS FOR PROVIDING SECURITY, ENSURING PUBLIC SAFETY AND MAINTAINING PEACE AND ORDER DURING POPE FRANCIS' APOSTOLIC AND STATE VISIT IN THE PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, the Philippines is one of the two nations in Asia with predominantly Roman Catholic Population and is the third largest in the world;

WHEREAS, the number of Filipino Catholics reached 76.18 million out of the country's estimated population of 96.8 million for 2012. The Catholic Directory also recorded 1.37 million baptisms since 2012;<sup>1</sup>

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

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

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/463377/filipino-catholic-population-expanding-say-church-officials

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

WHEREAS, the Philippine government has activated the biggest and extensive intelligence operation of its security forces mobilizing and deploying more than 150,000 strong police and military personnel;

WHEREAS, during the Papal International Apostolic Visit, all activities, events and holy mass celebrated are solemn, mannered and well-organized;

WHEREAS, despite the record-breaking concluding mass celebrated by Pope Francis at Manila, the six million attendees and the event itself remain peaceful and orderly;

WHEREAS, the organizers of the Philippine Papal International Apostolic Visit deserve commendation and praise for their top-notch performance of their duties and their sacrifices made all throughout the five-day visit of Pope Francis;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** by the Senate of the Philippines, to commend the organizers of the Papal International Apostolic Visit in the Philippines namely the Philippine National Police, Armed Forces of the Philippines, Metro Manila Development Authority, Presidential Security Group, Department of Public Works and Highways, Department of Interior and Local Government, Catholic Bishop Conference of the Philippines City of Manila, City of Pasay, City of Parañaque, City of Tacloban and Palo, Leyte, Philippine Red Cross, and other organizers and volunteers for providing security, ensuring public safety and maintaining peace and order during Pope Francis' apostolic and state visit in the Philippines.

ADOPTED,

JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO