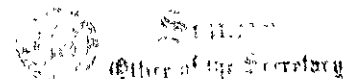


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)



15 NOV -2 P5:46

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: *J.*

P.S. Res. No. 1638

Introduced by Senate President Franklin M. Drilon

RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE DEEP SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCE OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE JOKER P. ARROYO, FORMER SENATOR (2001-2013) AND MEMBER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES (1992-2001)

1 **WHEREAS**, the Honorable Joker P. Arroyo, a distinguished and respected
2 former member of the Senate, passed away on 5 October 2015 at the age of 88;

3
4 **WHEREAS**, born in Naga City, Camarines Sur on 5 January 1927, he
5 completed his elementary and secondary education in his hometown and obtained
6 his Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Laws degrees from the University of the
7 Philippines, and his post graduate degree from the Ateneo de Manila University;

8
9 **WHEREAS**, when Martial Law was declared on 21 September 1972, he was
10 the very first lawyer to challenge the legality of the act under the 1935 Constitution
11 before the Supreme Court and, as a show of protest to the blatant violation of and
12 disregard for human rights, the icon of human rights actively participated in street
13 demonstrations and in the establishment of the civic group Movement of Attorneys
14 for Brotherhood, Integrity and Nationalism, Inc. (MABINI) and the Free Legal
15 Assistance Group (FLAG);

16
17 **WHEREAS**, he also joined other lawyers in questioning other Marcos' acts
18 before the Supreme Court, such as: 1) the ratification of the 1973 Constitution; 2)
19 Amendment No. 6 that empowered President Marcos to exercise lawmaking powers
20 alongside the Batasang Pambansa; 3) the power of military tribunals to try civilians
21 and in defending political detainees such as Senators Benigno Aquino, Jr., Jovito
22 Salonga, Eva Estrada Kalaw, Eugenio Lopez, Jr., Sergio Osmeña III, Jose Maria
23 Sison, Aquilino Pimentel Jr., Renato Tañada, Eduardo Olaguer, and many others;

24
25 **WHEREAS**, when Mrs. Corazon Aquino was inaugurated as the 11th
26 President of the Philippines on 25 February 1986, he was appointed Executive
27 Secretary from 1986 to 1987;

28
29 **WHEREAS**, as Member of the House of Representatives representing the
30 first district of Makati City for nine years, from 1992 to 2001 (9th, 10th and 11th
31 Congresses), he is best remembered for registering a 100% attendance record during
32 his three terms, for being the most frugal member of Congress which earned him the

1 monicker "Scrooge of Congress", for being consistently voted by media as
2 Outstanding Congressman of the Year, and for initiating the passage of several
3 national bills and some local bills like the creation of the City of Makati and the
4 second district of Makati;

5
6 **WHEREAS**, as Member of the Senate who served for two consecutive terms
7 from 2001 to 2013 (12th, 13th, 14th, and 15th Congresses), he chaired various Senate
8 committees, such as: the Accountability of Public Officers and Investigations (Blue
9 Ribbon), Justice and Human Rights, and Public Services and was popularly known
10 as the only other senator who did not use his P200-million annual Priority
11 Development Assistance Fund, thus saving taxpayers P2.4 billion over his 12-year
12 stint in the Senate;

13
14 **WHEREAS**, for his significant contributions to the law profession and public
15 service, he received various awards and commendations, notably, from the
16 Philippine Bar Association as the *Most Distinguished Award for Justice* for being a
17 "man beholden to no one except to his country" and from his fellow senators for his
18 invaluable services to the Filipino people;

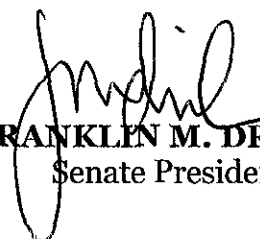
19
20 **WHEREAS**, known for his oratorical prowess, he effectively argued and
21 defended five (5) controversial cases before the Supreme Court, such as: the Venable
22 Contract, People's Initiative, Executive Order No. 464, Proclamation No. 1017, and
23 the constitutionality of the representation of Congress in the Judicial and Bar
24 Council (JBC), which thus earned him the admiration and respect not only of his
25 colleagues, but also of the Filipino people;

26
27 **WHEREAS**, his passing away is a great loss not only to his bereaved family
28 but to the nation as well: *Now, therefore, be it*

29
30 **RESOLVED BY THE SENATE**, To express, as it hereby expresses, its deep
31 sympathy and sincere condolence on the death of the Honorable Joker P. Arroyo,
32 human rights lawyer, freedom fighter, street parliamentarian, Congressman, and
33 Senator of the Republic.

34
35 **RESOLVED, FURTHER**, That a copy of this Resolution be furnished to his
36 bereaved family of the former Senator.

Adopted,


FRANKLIN M. DRILON
Senate President