SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session



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SENATE

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Introduced by SENATOR LOREN LEGARDA

RESOLUTION

COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE CAST AND PRODUCTION CREW OF THE FILM "ANG BABAENG HUMAYO" (THE WOMAN WHO LEFT) LED BY ITS DIRECTOR, INDEPENDENT FILMMAKER LAV DIAZ, AND MAIN ACTOR, MS. CHARO SANTOS-CONCIO, FOR WINNING THE GOLDEN LION FOR BEST FILM AWARD IN THE 73RD VENICE INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

WHEREAS, the Venice International Film Festival, founded in 1932, is organized by La Biennale di Venezia and was held this year at the Venice Lido from August 31 to September 10, 2016 with 57 new feature films in its Official Selection—20 in Venezia 73 (Competition), 18 Out of Competition and 19 in *Orizzonti*;

WHEREAS, the Venice International Film Festival, now on its 73rd year, continuously serves as a platform in raising awareness and promoting the various aspect of international cinema in all its form—as art, as entertainment, and as an industry, in a spirit of freedom and dialogue while also organizing retrospectives and tributes to major figures to promote better understanding of cinema history;

WHEREAS, the Official Selection from the Philippines and the lone film entry from Asia, "Ang Babaeng Humayo" (The Woman Who Left), written and directed by multi-awarded independent filmmaker Lavrente Indico "Lav" Diaz, and produced by Cinema One Originals and Sine Olivia Pilipinas, won the Golden Lion for Best Film (Leone d'Oro per il miglior film) award among entries in the In Competition category of the festival;

WHEREAS, the film, inspired by Leo Tolstoy's literary piece, "God Sees the Truth, But Waits" and revolving around the story of a wrongly convicted school teacher who seeks revenge, is described by the director as an existential discourse depicting "prison as a metaphor for the curse of living or life as a metaphor for prison";

WHEREAS, Lav Diaz, with his long list of accolades, most recently brought the country recognition and honor when he was awarded the Alfred Bauer Prize at the 2016 Berlin Festival for his critically acclaimed feature film *Hele sa Hiwagang Hapis (A Lullaby to the Sorrowful Mystery)*, the award given to a feature film that "opens new perspectives on cinematic art";

WHEREAS, the film's lead actor Charo Santos-Concio, who also won best actress in the Asian Film Festival for the film "Itim" released in 1976, and the

other main cast including Michael De Mesa, Cacai Bautista, Shamaine Buencamino, Nonie Buencamino and John Lloyd Cruz, likewise deserve to be commended for the honor they have brought to the country;

WHEREAS, as the first Philippine film to win the top prize at the oldest and one of the most prestigious film festivals in the world, this latest victory serves as a concrete testament to the artistry and excellence of Filipino independent filmmakers and actors;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, for the Philippine Senate to commend and congratulate the cast and production crew of the film "Ang Babaeng Humayo" (The Woman Who Left) led by its director, independent filmmaker Lav Diaz and main actor Ms. Charo Santos-Concio, for winning the Golden Lion for Best Film award at the 73rd Venice International Film Festival

Approved,

LOREN LEGARDA

Senator