SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session

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SENATE

P. S. R. No. 335

Introduced by Senator Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III

1	RESOLUTION
2	EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND
3	SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE
4	ON THE DEATH OF THE HONORABLE LETICIA RAMOS-
5	SHAHANI, FORMER SENATOR (1987-1998) AND SENATE
6	PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE (1993-1996)

WHEREAS, Leticia Ramos-Shahani, a former Senator (19871998) and the first woman Senate President Pro Tempore (1993-1996),
passed away on March 20, 2017 at the age of 87;

WHEREAS, born on September 30, 1929 in Lingayen, 10 Pangasinan, to Angela Valdez, a public school teacher, and Narciso 11 Ramos, a lawyer who later became an assemblyman and the Foreign 12 Affairs Secretary who co-founded the Association of Southeast Asian 13 Nations (ASEAN), she was a sister to Fidel V. Ramos, the twelfth 14 President of the Republic of the Philippines; a wife to the late writer and 15 professor, Ranjee Shahani; and a mother to their three children: Lila, 16 Ranjit, and Chanda; 17

WHEREAS, a woman of exceptional academic attainment, she earned her Bachelor of Arts in English Literature from Wellesley College in Massachusetts, USA; Master of Arts in Comparative Literature from Columbia University in New York, USA; and her Doctor of Philosophy in Comparative Literature and Sociology from the University of Paris in France as a French Government Scholar with her thesis meriting the highest honors; WHEREAS, a distinguished educator, she taught a wide array of
 courses such as English Literature, French, Spanish, Comparative
 Literature, Humanities, and Social Psychology; and served as a faculty
 member of the University of the Philippines, as Dean of the College of
 International Humanitarian and Development Studies of Miriam
 College, and also as Dean of the Graduate School of the Lyceum of the
 Philippines;

WHEREAS, a notable personality in the international arena, she 8 held various positions in the Philippine Foreign Service, remarkably as 9 the first woman Ambassador to the Socialist Republic of Romania and 10 to the Commonwealth of Australia; in the United Nations, as the 11 Chairperson of the United Nations Commission on the Status of 12 Women, as Assistant Secretary-General for Social Development and 13 Humanitarian Affairs, as Secretary-General of the Seventh Congress on 14 Crime Prevention and Treatment of Offenders in Milan, Italy, and of the 15 Third World Conference on Women in Nairobi, Kenya; and after the 16 1986 People Power Revolution, she was appointed Deputy Minister for 17 Foreign Affairs of the Republic of the Philippines; 18

WHEREAS, an esteemed Senator, she held various key positions
in the Senate such as Chairperson of the Committees on Social Justice,
Welfare and Development; Women and Family Relations; Agriculture;
Foreign Affairs; and Education, Culture and Arts; as member of the
Commission on Appointments; and as Senate President Pro Tempore,
the first woman to be elected thereto;

WHEREAS, an accomplished lawmaker, she was instrumental in 25 the enactment of quality legislative measures that gave emphasis on 26 education, economics, and natural resources and environmental 27 protection, foremost of which are R.A. 7356, which created the 28 National Commission for Culture and the Arts; R.A. 7227, otherwise 29 known as the "Bases Conversion and Development Act"; R.A. 7157, 30 otherwise known as the "Philippine Foreign Service Act of 1991"; R.A. 31 6725, which strengthens the prohibition of discrimination against 32 women in the workplace; R.A. 8505, otherwise known as the "Rape 33 Victim Assistance and Protection Act of 1998"; R.A. 8550, otherwise 34 known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998"; and R.A. 6977, 35 otherwise known as the "Magna Carta for Small Enterprises"; she was 36 likewise credited for initiating and advocating for the Moral Recovery 37 Program aimed at integrating ethical values into nation building and 38 governance; 39

WHEREAS, a women's rights advocate in the Senate, she successfully introduced the mandatory five percent allocation in the annual General Appropriations Act for gender-responsive projects in accordance with R.A. 7192, otherwise known as the "Women in Development and Nation Building Act";

6 WHEREAS, an unrelenting public servant, after her tenure in the 7 government, she continued campaigning for the upliftment of the 8 people, such as establishing the Shahani Gatas ng Kalabaw Products, 9 Inc., a dairy processing and marketing entity for pasteurization and 10 packaging of fresh carabao's milk and "kesong puti" in Pangasinan, 11 providing much needed extra income for farmers in the locality as well 12 as in the neighboring local government units;

WHEREAS, her passing is a great loss not only to her bereaved
 family and loved ones but also to the entire Filipino nation;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE,
 To express, as it hereby expresses, its profound sympathy and sincere
 condolences on the death of the Honorable Leticia Ramos-Shahani,
 former Senator (1987-1998) and Senate President Pro Tempore (1993 1996);

RESOLVED FURTHER, That a copy of this Resolution be
 furnished to the family of former Senator Leticia Ramos-Shahani.

Adopted,

AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III