SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session



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SENATE P.S. Res No. ___525

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Introduced by Senator LOREN LEGARDA

RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LATE DR. WASHINGTON SYCIP, SCHOLAR AND PATRIOT, FOR HIS ETHICAL AND TRANSFORMATIONAL LEADERSHIP, LIFE-LONG DEDICATION TO ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE, AND COMPASSIONATE HEART FOR THE FILIPINOS

WHEREAS, the Senate of the Philippines has, in several occasions, paid tribute to outstanding and exemplary Filipinos;

WHEREAS, on October 7, 2017, Washington SyCip died at the age of 96, leaving a legacy of ethical and transformational leadership that inspired Filipinos to strive for excellence and was recognized by the world;

WHEREAS, he was born on June 30, 1921 in Manila to parents Albino and Helen Bau SyCip and had four siblings, namely David, Alexander, Paz and Elizabeth;

WHEREAS, he was a product of the public school system, having gone to primary school in 1927 in Padre Burgos Elementary School where he was accelerated three times, and further on graduating in 1936 from Victorino Mapa High School at the young age of 15;

WHEREAS, he finished Accounting at the University of Santo Tomas (UST) College of Commerce in only two and a half years, graduating summa cum laude at the age of 18 and later obtaining his Master of Science in Commerce with honors from Columbia University, New York;

WHEREAS, he passed the board exams for certified public accountants at the age of 19 and soon founded what would emerge as SyCip Gorres Velayo & Co. (SGV & Co.), the biggest and most sought after auditing firm in the country;

WHEREAS, as a staunch believer in education and its role in improving lives and eradicating poverty, he founded the Asian Institute of Management (AIM) in 1966, which molded Filipino leaders, and for which he served as lifetime Chairman Emeritus of the Board of Trustees and Board of Governors;

WHEREAS, he helped organize the largest corporate-led non-profit social development foundation Philippine Business for Social Progress in 1970, which is a testament to his commitment to improve quality of life through projects and programs on sustainable livelihood, education, enterprise development, health, environment, and disaster rehabilitation;

WHEREAS, he became the first Asian president of the International Federation of Accountants (IFA) in 1982 and also President of the Philippine Institute of Certified Public Accountants;

WHEREAS, he received various local and international awards and distinctions, including the Ramon Magsaysay for International Understanding in 1992; Golden Medallion of Professional Excellence and Business Leadership by the Professional Regulation Commission in 2000; New Silk Road Award from the California-Asia Business Council in San Francisco and the Y.C. James Yen Citizen of the World Award from the International Institute of Rural Reconstruction in 2004; Lifetime Achievement Award from Columbia Business School in 2010; and Dr. Jose Rizal Award for Excellence (JRAE) - Lifetime Achievement Award for Public Service;

WHEREAS, he was conferred doctorates by several universities, including Doctorate Degree in Accounting Education, conferred by the University of Santo Tomas; Doctor of Humanities, *Honoris Causa*, conferred by Ateneo de Manila University; Doctor of Humanities, Honoris Causa, conferred by Angeles University Foundation; Doctor of Philosophy in Financial Management, conferred by De La Salle University, Philippines; Doctor of Science (Management), *Honoris Causa*, and the University Medal of Honor, conferred by Holy Angel University; Doctor of Laws, *Honoris Causa*, conferred by the University of the Philippines; and Doctor of Laws, Honorary Degree, conferred by the University of Melbourne;

WHEREAS, he was recently honored with The Order of the Rising Sun, Gold and Silver Star by His Majesty the Emperor of Japan in June 2017, adding to previous official honors he had received, namely, The Order of Lakandula, The Rank of Grand Cross, by Philippine President Benigno S. Aquino III in 2011; the Officer's Cross of the Order of Merit by the Federal Republic of Germany in 2006; and Officer First Class of the Royal Order of the Polar Star by Sweden in 1987;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Senate, to honor the late Dr. Washington SyCip, scholar and patriot, for his life-long dedication to academic excellence, ethical and transformational leadership, and compassionate heart for the Filipinos and to extend our deepest condolences to his bereaved family.

Approved,

LOREN LEGARDA

Senator