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SENATE
P.S. Res. No. 569

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by **Senator Richard J. Gordon**

RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LATE JUSTICE FLERIDA RUTH P. ROMERO, RETIRED ASSOCIATE JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT AND FORMER SECRETARY-GENERAL OF THE CONSTITUTIONAL COMMISSION IN 1987, FOR HER LIFE-LONG SERVICE TO THE COUNTRY AS PUBLIC SERVANT IN DIFFERENT CAPACITIES AND AS AN ACADEMIC.

WHEREAS, Justice Florida Ruth P. Romero graduated from the University of the Philippines College of Law in 1952 and received her Master of Laws degree, while on full fellowship, from the Indiana University - Bloomington Maurer School of Law in 1955;

WHEREAS, Justice Romero led the establishment of the Asian Labor Education Center in the University of the Philippines, which eventually became the degree-granting School of Labor and Industrial Relations, of which she served as Director and Dean from 1962 to 1963;

WHEREAS, in the course of her professional career, Justice Romero was a well-regarded authority in the field of Civil Law, where she played a key role in the drafting of the Family Code of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, Justice Romero taught at the University of the Philippines College of Law. She was the author of numerous scholarly works, including articles in The Journal of Professional Education, The Philippine Labor Review, The Philippine Law Review, and The Court Systems Journal. She she also created media programs to popularize the law. She was a columnist for the Manila Journal from 1986 to 1988 and wrote for the Philippine Star from 1989 to 1991. As a host on radio call-in shows, she answered listeners' questions about the law to make it more accessible to the people;

WHEREAS, Justice Romero was also well-respected in the field of Labor Law, being the first labor arbitrator under Presidential Decree No. 21 and an accredited voluntary arbitrator;

WHEREAS, Justice Romero served as Special Assistant to President Corazon C. Aquino in 1986;

WHEREAS, in 1986, President Aquino appointed Justice Romero as Secretary-General of the Constitutional Commission which drafted the 1987 Constitution;

WHEREAS, on 21 October 1991, President Aquino appointed Justice Romero to the Supreme Court, making the latter the 5th woman to be appointed to the High Court. She served as an Associate Justice of the Supreme Court from 21 October 1991 until her compulsory retirement upon reaching the age of 70 on 01 August 1999;

WHEREAS, during her stint in the Supreme Court, Justice Romero also served as a member of the Senate Electoral Tribunal (SET) in 1994 and from 1997 to 1999, and as SET chairperson from 1998 to 1999;

WHEREAS, Justice Romero was an advocate of the rights of women and children. In 1975, she headed the Philippine delegation to the International Women's Year Conference in Mexico. In 1995, she received the Gintong Ina Award and participated in the Regional Consultation on the Convention on the Rights of the Child;

WHEREAS, Justice Romero, during her lifetime, was a member of several professional and both local and international organizations, and held key positions in the following:

- International Director of the International Association of Women Judges;
- President of the Philippine Women Judges Association of the Philippines;
- Founding President of the Philippine Association of Law Professors;
- President, Philippine Association of Technical Assistance Participants;
- Founding President, Multi-Sectoral Council for the Prevention of Crime and Treatment of Offenders; and
- Chairperson, Family Law Committee, Integrated Bar of the Philippines

WHEREAS, Justice Romero devoted her services to improve the lives of her countrymen, and has worked tirelessly for the rights of Filipinos, especially women and children. Her enduring commitment to the country is evidenced by her honest and unquestionable service to several major branches of the government, namely the Executive, the Judiciary, and the Constitutional Commission;

WHEREAS, Justice Romero was a recipient of numerous awards and distinctions, all of which attest to her dedication to public service and contributions to society, including the following:

- First recipient of the The Outstanding Women in the Nation's Service (TOWNS) Award in the field of Law;
- The Outstanding Filipino (TOFIL) Award in the field of Justice/Law;
- The Outstanding Women in the Nation's Service (TOWNS) Award for Outstanding Performance in the Judiciary; and,
- Presidential Award of Distinction from the Integrated Bar of the Philippines.

WHEREAS, Justice Romero had many opportunities to leave public work and pursue a lucrative practice in the private sector. However, her love for country and dedication to public service compelled her to remain in the public sector to serve her countrymen;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Senate to honor the late Justice Florida Ruth P. Romero, retired Associate Justice of the Supreme Court and former Secretary-General of the Constitutional Commission in 1987, for her lifelong service to the country as public servant in different capacities and as an academic.

Approved,



RICHARD J. GORDON