

SENATE

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P.S. Res. No. 831

RECEIVED BY \_\_\_\_\_

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

RESOLUTION

**CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING PACIFICO C. CORDADA, JR. OF T'BOLI, SOUTH COTABATO FOR BEING NAMED THE 2018 ULIRANG MAGSASAKA BY THE LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES DURING THE GAWAD SA PINAKATANGING KOOPERATIBA (GAWAD PITAK) AWARDING CEREMONY ON 8 AUGUST 2018 AT THE PHILIPPINE INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION CENTER IN PASAY CITY, PHILIPPINES**

**WHEREAS**, the *Gawad sa Pinakatanging Kooperatiba* or *Gawad PITAK* is an annual search undertaken by the Land Bank of the Philippines (LANDBANK) that recognizes cooperatives which exemplified the tenets of cooperativism;

**WHEREAS**, launched in 1990, the *Gawad PITAK* is the country's longest-running and most prestigious award-giving body for cooperatives and is awarded to LANDBANK-assisted agriculture- and non-agriculture-based cooperatives that effect change in the lives of the Filipino;

**WHEREAS**, nominated farmer entrepreneurs for the *Ulirang Magsasaka* award were evaluated via table and field validation conducted by the Technical Working Group (TWG) composed of LANDBANK personnel and representatives from the Senate, House of Representatives, Department of Agrarian Reform (DAR), Department of Agriculture (DA), and the Cooperative Development Authority (CDA);

**WHEREAS**, after the evaluation, the Program Management Committee (PMC) deliberated on the assessment made by the TWG and endorsed shortlisted farmer entrepreneurs to the Board of Judges (BOJ) for judging by this year's panel headed by the Chairman of the Senate Committee on Cooperatives as Chairperson, with Representative Rico B. Geron, the Chairman of the House Committee on Cooperatives Development as Co-Chairperson, Mr. Alex V. Buenaventura, President and CEO of the Land Bank of the Philippines as Vice Chairperson, and members – DA Secretary Manuel F. Piñol, DAR Secretary John R. Castriciones, and CDA Chairman Orlando R. Ravanera;

**WHEREAS**, first conferred in 2014, the *Ulirang Magsasaka* award is given to exceptional farmer entrepreneurs who have excelled in their farming business operations and have contributed to community development, with this year's award going to Mr. Pacifico C. Cordada Jr. of T'Boli, South Cotabato;

**WHEREAS**, having been inflicted with infantile paralysis or polio at the age of 2, our awardee never let his physical disability serve as a limiting factor in performing his activities, as a matter of fact, he has been tilling his ancestor's lands long before his cooperative, the Laconon 100 Multi-Purpose Cooperative, was established, and he was Dolefil's Century Club awardee in 2010 for exemplary yield production for pineapples, and was recognized by his cooperative as the highest yielder in pineapple production;

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Cordada is a founding member of the Laconon 100 Multi-Purpose Cooperative in 1997, which he chaired at its inception, and was recently again elected for chairmanship, during which period he saved the cooperative from fiscal struggles;

**WHEREAS**, at Mr. Cordada's urging, a major multinational agricultural corporation came to T'boli, South Cotabato, which helped the cooperative, the community, and the indigenous peoples optimize the use of its vast lands, and gave them a multitude of livelihood opportunities that they still benefit from to this day;

**WHEREAS**, the Senate of the Philippines proudly joins the Land Bank of the Philippines in acknowledging the vital role of farmers in our nation's social and economic progress through the 2018 *Gawad sa Pinakatanging Kooperatiba* or Gawad PITAK *Ulirang Magsasaka* award;

**RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the Senate of the Philippines congratulate and commend Pacifico C. Cordada, Jr. of T'Boli, South Cotabato for being named the 2018 *Ulirang Magsasaka* by the Landbank of the Philippines during the *Gawad sa Pinakatanging Kooperatiba* (Gawad PITAK) awarding ceremony on 8 August 2018 at the Philippine International Convention Center in Pasay City, Philippines.

**Adopted,**



**JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI**