SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES))

Third Regular Session

MAY 22 P8:21

SENATE P.S. Res. No. 1044

Introduced by Senator Richard J. Gordon

RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LATE PROSPERO C. NOGRALES FOR HIS STERLING RECORD AS A STATESMAN AND DRIVEN PUBLIC SERVANT, HAVING BEEN ELECTED AS THE FIRST SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES FROM MINDANAO, AND FOR DEDICATING HIS LIFE TO IMPROVE THE LIVES OF HIS COUNTRYMEN

WHEREAS, Prospero C. Nograles had a sterling record as a Statesman, was a driven public servant to his constituents for almost three (3) decades, and had dedicated his life to improve the lives of his countrymen;

WHEREAS, Nograles was brilliant as a student and was primed for excellence from the beginning, even as he grew up at a time when there was ferment in the country. He was born in Davao City and had his primary and secondary education thereat. In 1959, he graduated Class Valedictorian at the Ateneo de Davao Grade School, while in 1963, he graduated with honors from the Ateneo de Davao High School. He obtained a Bachelor of Arts degree major in Political Science in 1967 at the Ateneo de Manila University and his Bachelor of Laws degree from the Ateneo Law School in 1971. He placed second (2nd) in the 1971 Bar Examinations, with a rating of 90.95%;

WHEREAS, Nograles was an outstanding lawyer who served as a human rights lawyer. He was named one of the country's Ten Outstanding Young Men (TOYM) for Justice and Human Rights in 1986;

WHEREAS, before he entered politics in 1989, Nograles was the executive assistant to the president and Deputy General Counsel at the University of the Philippines. He was also the Chief General Counsel of the Development Bank of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, Nograles was a hardworking man who worked very hard for his constituents. He was elected to the House of Representatives from 16 June 1989 to 30 June 1992, from 30 June 1995 to 30 June 1998, and for three terms from 30 June 2001 to 30 June 2010. In 2008, his peers elected him as Speaker of the House of House Representatives, becoming the first House Speaker from Mindanao and serving as such from 05 February 2008 to 30 June 2010;

WHEREAS, as a lawmaker, Nograles served as vice chairman and House contingent head in the Commission on Appointments, majority leader and chairman of the committee on housing and urban development. He was author or co-author of several laws, including Republic Act No. 9207 or the National Government Center Housing and Land Utilization Act of 2003, and Republic Act No. 9267, or the Securitization Law;

WHEREAS, as leader of the House of Representatives for barely two-and-a-half years as Speakersh, Congress achieved then record-high numbers in legislation passed with more than five hundred (500) laws enacted, including several landmark laws, including the Cheaper Medicines Act, the Magna Carta for Medium and Small-Scale Enterprises, the Renewable Energy Resources Act, the Philippine Disaster Risk Reduction and Management Act, the Magna Carta for Women, the Climate Change Act, the Mindanao Development Authority Act, and the National Commission on Muslim Filipinos Act;

WHEREAS, Nograles also rationalized the selection, hiring and promotion of the employees of the Secretariat of the House of Representatives, converting it into an efficient and competent corps of legislative support providers;

WHEREAS, Nograles was as devoted to his family as he was to his constituents. He and his wife Rhodora Bendigo were able to instill the spirit of public service and excellence to their children Karlo Alexei, who served as congressman for the 1st District of Davao City from 2010 to 2018 and is currently the Cabinet Secretary of the Philippines; Jericho Jonas, who is a party-list representative from Pwersa ng Bayaning Atleta (PBA) party-list; and, Margarita, who recently passed the 2018 Bar Examinations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Senate to honor the late Prospero C. Nograles for his sterling record as a Statesman, a driven public servant of almost three (3) decades, and dedication of his life for the betterment of the lives of the Filipino people.

Approved,

RICHARD J. GORDON