

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



Senate
Office of the Secretary

SENATE

20 MAY -4 AIO :54

P. S. RES. NO. 382

RECEIVED 20

Introduced by **SENATOR CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**

RESOLUTION

**EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCE
OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES ON THE DEATH OF FORMER
SENATOR HEHERSON T. ALVAREZ**

WHEREAS, the Honorable Heherson T. Alvarez, a distinguished public servant who had served in various capacities – Senator, Member of the House of Representatives, Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, Secretary of the Department of Agrarian Reform, Presidential Adviser and Commissioner of the Climate Change Commission – passed away on April 20, 2020;

WHEREAS, as a Senator, who served from 1987 to 1998 or during the Eight, Ninth and Tenth Congress, he steered the passage of a number of landmark and important legislations, notable of which were those encompassing environmental protection, agriculture development, promoting cooperatives, democratizing elections, promotion of the rights of Indigenous Peoples (IPs); energy resources management, such as: the National Integrated Protected Areas System (NIPAS) Act (RA 7586); Strategic Environmental Plan (SEP) for Palawan (RA 7611); Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law (RA 6657); Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998 (RA 8550); Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act (RA 8435); Revised Charter of the Philippine Crop Insurance Corporation (Ra 8175); Cooperative Code of the Philippines (RA 6938); Act Creating the Cooperative Development Authority (RA 6939); Voters Registration Act

(RA 8189); Indigenous People Rights Law (RA 8371); Department of Energy Law (RA 7638); and the Downstream Oil Industry Deregulation Act (RA 8479).¹

WHEREAS, as a Member of the House of Representatives representing the Fourth District of Isabela during the Eleventh Congress from 1998 to 2001, he continued to pursue his advocacy for the environment and thus, he was responsible for the enactment of the following remarkable legislations, among others: the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act (RA 9003); the Philippine Clean Air Act (RA 8479), and the Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park Act (RA 9215).²

WHEREAS, as Secretary of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources from March 2001 to December 2002, he implemented initiatives aimed at making the department a more efficient and reliable government agency in fulfilling its mandate of ensuring the sustainable management, development and proper use of the country's environment and natural resources. For this purpose, he initiated conservation programs, such as extensive reforestation program, strict enforcement of standards for hazardous waste and toxic chemicals, and strict monitoring of hundreds of hazardous waste generators, among others, as a way of protecting the quality of the environment;

WHEREAS, as a staunch advocate for the protection of the environment, he has earned the name of "Mr. Earthsaver" and it is with his active intercession that the Philippines has ratified the following important international environmental treaties, such as: the Montreal Protocol on Substances that Deplete the Ozone Layer; the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance; the Bonn Convention on Migratory Species of Wild Animals, the UN Convention on Biological Diversity; and the BASEL Convention on the Transboundary Movement of Wastes;³

WHEREAS, a public servant who was a recipient of the Outstanding Alumnus award of the University of the Philippines and who holds a Master in Public

¹ <http://www.hehersonalvarez.com>

² Ibid

³ Ibid

Administration degree from Harvard University, he served the government with utmost dedication, sincerity and commitment, always carrying a vision in upholding the welfare and interest of the Filipino people;

WHEREAS, even after his stint in the public service, he never wavered in pursuing in earnest noteworthy advocacies to benefit the Filipino people, and for this, he was conferred with the Order of Lakandula with the rank of Grand Cross (Bayani), which is one of the highest honors conferred by the Philippines on an individual whose life is worthy of emulation by the people;

WHEREAS, his passing away is a great loss not only to his bereaved family but to the nation as well: Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, to express, as it is hereby expresses, its profound sympathy and sincere condolence on the death of former Senator Heherson T. Alvarez.

RESOLVED FURTHER, that a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the bereaved family of the Honorable Heherson T. Alvarez.

Adopted,


CYNTHIA A. VILLAR