

## Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

## RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES ON THE DEATH OF ONE OF THE PHILIPPINES' MOST TALENTED DIRECTORS, MAURICE RUIZ DE LUZURIAGA GALLAGA OTHERWISE KNOWN AS PEQUE GALLAGA, AND HONORING HIS CONTRIBUTIONS TO PHILIPPINE CINEMA

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine Senate has in several occasions paid its respects to remarkable Filipinos for their legacy and contribution to society;

**WHEREAS**, one of Philippine cinema's acclaimed directors, Maurice Ruiz de Luzuriaga Gallaga, passed away on 7 May 2020 due to pneumonia at age 76;

**WHEREAS,** Negrense director Maurice Ruiz de Luzuriaga Gallaga, more popularly known as Peque Gallaga, was a multi-awarded filmmaker, actor and scriptwriter with an illustrious filmography spanning four decades, a body of work that masterfully delivered profundity, entertainment, quixotism, thought-provoking controversy, and social critique;

**WHEREAS,** Peque Gallaga is considered a visionary and a pillar of the Philippine film industry, where he is best known for the classic film *Oro Plata Mata* and as codirector and screenwriter of a number of *Shake, Rattle & Roll* movies;

**WHEREAS,** Peque Gallaga has used the medium of film to offer bold and original explorations of the realities, anxieties, and fantasies of Philippine society, evident in his searing take on war, violence, and class struggle in *Oro Plata Mata*, in his provocative look at a tumultuous regime through *Scorpio Nights*, in his bold spin on the gruesome crossroads between state, media, and religion in *Isang Araw Walang Diyos*, in his left-turn into the magical delights of adventure-fantasy in the generation-defining *Magic Temple*, and most of all in his adroit plumbing of the deepest fears of the Filipino psyche in *Tiyanak*, *Hiwaga sa Balete Drive*, and the inimitable cultural success that is *Shake*, *Rattle & Roll*;

**WHEREAS,** Peque Gallaga is a well-respected fixture not only in the local film industry but in the international arena as well, as evidenced by the accolades he garnered here and abroad, having been recognised at the International Film Festival of Flanders-Ghent in Belgium and the Chicago International Film Festival, and receiving the Special Jury Award from the Manila International Film Festival, the Gawad CCP Para sa Sining, the Lifetime Achievement Award from Gawad Urian Awards, the Manuel De Leon Award from the Film Academy of the Philippines, and numerous other distinctions and nominations from the Metro Manila Film Festival, the Cinema One Originals Digital Film Festival, and the Star Awards for Movies; **WHEREAS**, his passing is a great loss not only to his bereaved family and the film industry but to the entire Filipino nation as well;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines to express its profound sympathy and sincere condolences on the death of one of the Philippines' most talented directors, Maurice Ruiz de Luzuriaga Gallaga otherwise known as Peque Gallaga and honor his contributions to Philippine cinema.

Adopted,

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