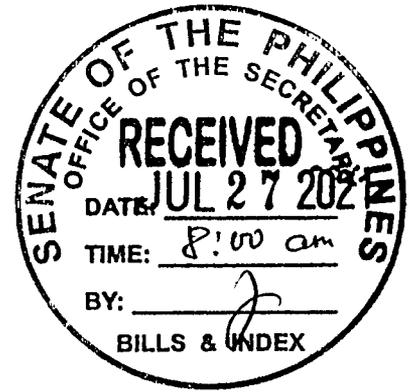


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)



S E N A T E

P.S. Res. No. 793

Introduced by **SENATOR VICENTE C. SOTTO III**

RESOLUTION

COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING PHILIPPINE AIR FORCE SERGEANT HIDILYN FRANCISCO DIAZ FOR WINNING THE FIRST EVER GOLD MEDAL FOR THE PHILIPPINES IN THE XXXII EDITION OF THE WORLD OLYMPICS CURRENTLY BEING HELD IN TOKYO, JAPAN FROM JULY 23 – AUGUST 8, 2021, SINCE THE TIME THE COUNTRY STARTED COMPETING IN THIS QUADRENNIAL EVENT ALMOST A CENTURY AGO

WHEREAS, Hidilyn Diaz won the formidable gold medal for the Philippines after she bested her opponents from various powerhouse country contenders in the sports of Weightlifting in the Women's 55kg division in the 2020 Tokyo Olympic games;

WHEREAS, her dedication, sacrifices, and self-discipline to achieve her Olympic goal were beyond compare as she trained and lived in exile in Malaysia since February 2020 and when the Malaysian government imposed and implemented its Movement Control Order in April 2020 to contain the Covid-19 Pandemic, her character and determination were further tested but the Filipina athlete stood still as she continued to train using bamboo sticks and large water bottles as makeshift weightlifting equipment and, during the immediate months prior to the 2020 Summer Olympics, she was forced to work out in an open-air carport;

WHEREAS, Diaz did not only capture the coveted championship in this international event, but likewise set a new Olympic record after gaining a total of 224kg in the snatch and clean and jerk categories;

WHEREAS, aside from being the only female Filipino athlete to win two medals in the prestigious World Olympic Games, Hidilyn Diaz takes pride to deliver to the country its first ever gold medal since the time the Philippines started competing in the Olympics in the 1924 Paris Olympiad;

WHEREAS, her first participation in the Olympics was in 2008, at the age of 17, when she was selected as a wild card entry to the Summer Olympics by the Philippine Weightlifting Association and thus earned the distinction of being the first female weightlifter to compete for the Philippines in the Olympics and the youngest competitor in the women's 58-kg category;

WHEREAS, though she failed to win a medal in the 2008 and 2012 Olympics, she did not stop to train harder and in her third consecutive Olympic participation in 2016 she won a silver medal in the women's 53-kg weight division;

WHEREAS, Hidilyn Diaz deserves to be exalted as one of the country's most accomplished athletes after earning several medals in different international sporting events like Silver medal in the 2016 Rio Olympics, Gold medal in the 2018 Jakarta Asian Games, and several other medals in the Southeast Asian Games and other international games she has participated;

WHEREAS, among her other memorable victories and achievements were gold medal in the women's 55kg event at the Roma 2020 World Cup in Rome, Italy, bronze medal each in the 2017 and 2019 World Championships, silver medal in the 2019 Asian Championship, gold medal in the 2019 Southeast Asian Games in Manila, gold medal in the 2018 Asian Games, bronze medal in the 2007 SEA Games in Thailand, 10th place finish at the 2006 Asian Games in the 53-kilogram class, two gold medals and one silver medal in the Asian Youth/Junior Weightlifting Championship held in Jeonju, South Korea representing the Universidad de Zamboanga;

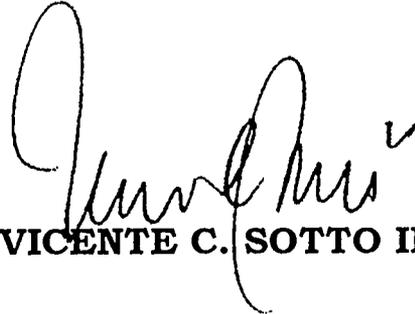
WHEREAS, her international achievements are noteworthy of her prowess in the sport of weightlifting which is known to many as a male dominated sport, and for being a team player which meets this year's Olympic motto "Faster, Higher, Stronger – Together";

WHEREAS, this is not the first time that the Philippine Senate has given its commendation for Hidilyn Diaz not only for bringing pride and honors to the colors of the country she represented but also for the athletic supremacy she displayed that brings hope to every Filipino athlete that becoming world-class caliber is attainable;

WHEREAS, her historic victory at the 2020 Olympic Games will greatly inspire and guide the Filipinos in general and the youth in particular that no dream is unreachable and no goal is unattainable as long as one devotes himself or herself to the achievement of that dream and goal through hard-work, perseverance, and sacrifice.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to commend and congratulate Philippine Air Force Sergeant Hidilyn Francisco Diaz for winning the first ever gold medal for the Philippines in the XXXII edition of the World Olympics currently being held in Tokyo, Japan from July 23 – August 8, 2021; since the time the country started competing in this quadrennial event almost a century ago.

Adopted,


VICENTE C. SOTTO III