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

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22 MAY 31 P3:50

SENATE

P. S. RES. NO. 1018

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

RESOLUTION

COMMENDING THE HONORABLE SENATOR FRANCIS N. PANGILINAN FOR HIS INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SENATE AND THE FILIPINO PEOPLE DURING HIS TERM AS SENATOR

WHEREAS, the Honorable Francis N. Pangilinan, a distinguished and diligent member of the Senate in the 17th and 18th Congresses (2016-2022), has served as Chairperson of Senate Committees on Constitutional Amendments and Revision of Codes and Agriculture and Food;

WHEREAS, as Chairman of the Committee on Constitutional Amendments, he conducted public hearings on the proposal to shift the country's form of government to federalism and to amend the Constitution, amid COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, a farmer by heart who is committed to help and support the agricultural and fisheries sector, he principally authored and co-sponsored some major legislations, particularly Republic Act 11524 or the "Coconut Farmers and Industry Trust Fund Act", which mandates the creation of a 50-year trust fund and the transfer of at least 75 billion of accumulated coco levy to the trust fund from 2021 to 2025 to uplift the livelihood of millions of coconut farmers and sustain the development of the country's coconut industry; RA 11511 which amends RA 10068 or the "Organic Agriculture Act of 2010" to ensure that the needs of smallholder farmers and farmworkers who practice organic farming and those who are planning to shift to organic farming are met; and RA 11321 or the "Sagip Saka Act", which intends to increase the food producers' income and make agricultural products more affordable for consumers by compelling local government units and other government agencies to buy goods and produce directly from farmers and fisherfolk cooperatives and by doing away with middlemen;

WHEREAS, exhibiting deep concern over the plight of small farmers in the country in light of the continuing decline in the prices of palay, devastation caused by calamities, and crippling effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, he strongly supported and was instrumental in the passage of RA 11598, otherwise known as the "Cash Assistance for Filipino Farmers Act", the law that authorizes the Department of Agriculture to provide direct cash assistance to farmers who are tilling 2 hectares and below of rice land until 2024; WHEREAS, known for championing the cause of the innocent children and underprivileged students, the judiciary, the people's right to health care, and the country's economy, he wholeheartedly supported the passage of the following vital measures: RA 11691, or the "Judiciary Marshals Act"; RA 11643 which grants survivorship benefits to the surviving legitimate spouse and dependent children of a deceased retired member of the National Prosecution Service of the Department of Justice; RA 11648 which intends to give stronger protection against rape and sexual exploitation and abuse; RA 11642 or the "Domestic Administrative Adoption and Alternative Child Care Act"; RA 11596 which prohibits the practice of child marriage; RA 11510, or the "Alternative Learning System Act"; RA 11476, or the "GMRC and Values Education Act"; RA 11314 or the "Student Fare Discount Act"; RA 11210, or the "105-Day Expanded Maternity Leave Law"; RA 11525, or the COVID-19 Vaccination Program Act of 2021"; RA 11647 which amends RA 7042, otherwise known as the "Foreign Investments Act of 1991"; and RA 11641, or the "Department of Migrant Workers Act";

WHEREAS, for his immeasurable contributions to the Chamber's fruitful achievements during the 17th and 18th Congresses of the Philippines, he truly deserves the recognition and appreciation of the Senate: *Now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, To commend, as it hereby commends, the

Honorable Senator Francis N. Pangilinan for his invaluable contributions to the Senate

and to the Filipino people during his term as Senator.

Adopted,

JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI Senator