



Senate

Office of the Secretary

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*Second Regular Session* )

23 SEP 19 P 6 :47

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

P. S. RES. No. 806

Introduced by Senator **PIA S. CAYETANO**

**RESOLUTION**

**RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING DR. CARMENCITA PADILLA FOR RECEIVING THE ORDER OF NATIONAL SCIENTIST AWARD**

**WHEREAS**, Executive Order No. 236, s. 2003 otherwise known as the *Honors Code of the Philippines*, "emphasizes the exceptional prestige of the Order by placing the National Scientist Award fourth in the order of precedence and equal in rank with the Order of National Artist;<sup>1</sup>

**WHEREAS**, on 31 August 2023, Dr. Carmencita Padilla received the Order of National Scientist Award (*Orden ng Gawad ng Pambansang Alagad ng Agham*), the highest national recognition given to a man or woman of science in the Philippines;<sup>2</sup>

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Padilla excelled in her medical studies, obtaining her BS Pre-Medicine as *cum laude* at the University of the Philippines Diliman in 1976; her degree for Doctor of Medicine as an outstanding graduate at the University of the Philippines (UP) Manila in 1981; her Fellowship in Clinical Genetics at the prestigious Royal Alexandra Hospital for Children in Sydney, Australia in 1990; and her MA in Health Policy Studies at the College of Public Health at UP Manila in 2005;<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Executive Order No. 236, s. 2003.

<sup>2</sup> Pareja, A. (2023, August 31). Palace confers the Order of National Scientist on Dr. Carmencita Padilla. *University of the Philippines Manila*. [https://www.upm.edu.ph/cpt\\_news/palace-confers-the-order-of-national-scientist-to-dr-carmencita-d-padilla/](https://www.upm.edu.ph/cpt_news/palace-confers-the-order-of-national-scientist-to-dr-carmencita-d-padilla/)

<sup>3</sup> Department of Science and Technology. (2023, August 29). Palace confers the Order of National Scientist on Dr. Carmencita Padilla. *Department of Science and Technology*. <https://www.dost.gov.ph/knowledge-resources/news/78-2023-news/3309-palace-confers-the-order-of-national-scientist-to-dr-carmencita-d-padilla.html>

**WHEREAS**, after receiving genetics specialty training in Australia, Dr. Padilla established the Philippines' first-ever Medical Genetics Unit at the UP College of Medicine, which later developed into the Institute of Human Genetics and became a significant part of the National Institutes of Health–UP Manila;<sup>4</sup>

**WHEREAS**, she has made significant contributions in public health through medical research, particularly in the development of genetic technology, which played a crucial role in the passage of key health measures;

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Padilla's notable studies were vital in the crafting and passage of critical health laws such as the *Newborn Screening Act of 2004*, which is known to have saved thousands of infants all over the country from intellectual disability and death, and the *Rare Diseases Act of 2016*, which protects and promotes the right to health of right of persons suffering from rare diseases to survive through access to timely health information and adequate medical care;<sup>5</sup>

**WHEREAS**, she spearheaded the establishment of the Philippine Genome Center (PGC), a multidisciplinary institution that will combine basic and applied research for the development of health diagnostics, therapeutics, DNA forensics, preventive products, and the improvement of crop varieties in the country;<sup>6</sup>

**WHEREAS**, the PGC was at the forefront of the country's Covid-19 pandemic response and provided the government and the country's policymakers with the

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<sup>4</sup> University of the Philippines Manila. (n.d). *Dr. Carmencita M. David-Padilla: Safeguarding the health of Filipino children*. <https://test.upm.nbtechbeta.com/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/Profile-of-Chancellor-Carmencita-Padilla-as-of-12-Dec.-2019-1.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> Department of Science and Technology. (2023, August 29). Palace confers the Order of National Scientist on Dr. Carmencita Padilla. *Department of Science and Technology*. <https://www.dost.gov.ph/knowledge-resources/news/78-2023-news/3309-palace-confers-the-order-of-national-scientist-to-dr-carmencita-d-padilla.html>

<sup>6</sup> Department of Science and Technology. (2023, August 29). Palace confers the Order of National Scientist on Dr. Carmencita Padilla. *Department of Science and Technology*. <https://www.dost.gov.ph/knowledge-resources/news/78-2023-news/3309-palace-confers-the-order-of-national-scientist-to-dr-carmencita-d-padilla.html>

information needed to better understand the virus and implement measures to limit and manage its spread;<sup>7</sup>

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Padilla demonstrated compassionate leadership and dedication in pursuit of honor and excellence as the current Chancellor of the UP Manila as she continuously considers innovative ways for the delivery of health sciences and medical education to our Iskolars ng Bayan while leading the establishment of various medical and laboratory facilities that cater to patients of the PGH and from other hospitals in the country;

**WHEREAS**, her contributions to public health, particularly in the fields of medical research, education, and legislation continue to inspire and uplift the lives of Filipinos all over the nation;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, recognizing and commending Dr. Carmencita Padilla for receiving the order of national scientist award conferred by the President of the Philippines.

*Adopted,*

  
**PIA S. CAYETANO**

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<sup>7</sup> Unite, B. (2023, August 31). Marcos confers awards to outstanding Filipinos in science, int'l trade. *Manila Bulletin*. <https://mb.com.ph/2023/09/01/marcos-confers-presidential-awards-to-outstanding-filipinos-in-science-int-l-trade-1>