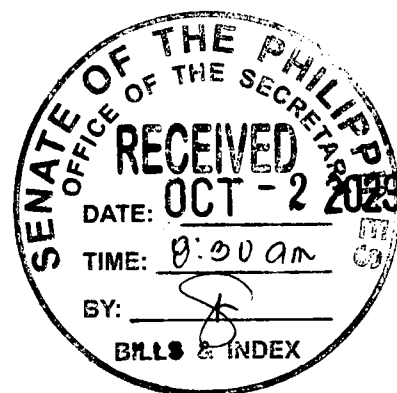


NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 815

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING ERNEST JOHN "EJ" OBIENA FOR WINNING THE COUNTRY'S FIRST GOLD MEDAL IN THE ASIAN GAMES 2023 AFTER RULING THE MEN'S POLE VAULT EVENT AT THE HANGZHOU OLYMPIC SPORTS CENTRE STADIUM IN HANGZHOU, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON 30 SEPTEMBER 2023

WHEREAS, Filipino athletics player Ernest John "EJ" Obiena brought pride and glory to the Philippines after winning for the country a gold medal in the Men's Pole Vault Event of the Asian Games 2023 at the Hangzhou Olympic Sports Centre Stadium in Hangzhou, China on 30 September 2023;

WHEREAS, considered as one of the world's biggest multi-sport competitions, the Asian Games is a multi-sport event held every 4 years among athletes from all over Asia. This year's games is participated by over 12,000 athletes from 45 countries competing in 481 events;

WHEREAS, EJ Obiena successfully clinched a gold medal in the men's pole vault event after emerging as the only athlete in the competition to clear 5.75 meters, surpassing the 5.70 meters record set during the 2018 Asiad in Indonesia;

WHEREAS, EJ Obiena further reset this meet's mark after he easily cleared the 5.90 meters on his first try;

WHEREAS, with this victory, EJ Obiena ended the country's 37-year gold medal drought in the Asiad athletics event which was last delivered by Lydia De Vega in 1986 after she won for the country a gold medal in the women's 100 meters event;

WHEREAS, EJ Obiena also ended the country's 29-year medal drought in the Asiad athletics event which was delivered by Elma Muros in 1994 after she bagged a bronze medal in the women's long jump event;

WHEREAS, EJ Obiena has previously raised the Philippine flag in the field of athletics by successfully bringing home gold medals for the country in the 2023 Asian Athletics Championships in Thailand, 2023 Southeast Asian Games in Cambodia, the Wanda Diamond League Athletics in Belgium, and 2021 Southeast Asian Games in Vietnam;


WHEREAS, Ernest John Obiena was born on 17 November 1995 in Tondo, Manila to parents Emerson Obiena and Jeanette Uy;

WHEREAS, the 27-year-old Filipino athletics player first took up pole vault at the very young age of six, but primarily focused on doing hurdles, and it wasn't until his last years in high school that he decided to do pole vault again in his effort to secure a college scholarship;

WHEREAS, currently ranked second in the world, EJ Obiena has brought pride, glory and inspiration to the Filipino people and has once again proven to the world the persistent and indomitable spirit of the Filipino, for which he deserves to be honored and commended;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate to congratulate and commend Ernest John "EJ" Obiena for winning the country's first gold medal in the Asian Games 2023 after ruling the men's pole vault event at the Hangzhou Olympic Sports Centre Stadium in Hangzhou, People's Republic of China on 30 September 2023.

Adopted,


JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI
