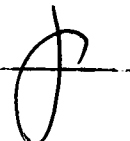


23 OCT -9 A8 :25

SENATE

P. S. Res. No. 823

RECEIVED BY: _____



Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

RESOLUTION
COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING PHILIPPINE NATIONAL
BASKETBALL TEAM GILAS PILIPINAS FOR WINNING THE GOLD MEDAL IN
THE 19th ASIAN GAMES HELD IN HANGZHOU, CHINA AND RECLAIMING
THE CONTINENTAL CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE AFTER SIXTY-ONE (61) YEARS

1 WHEREAS, the Philippine Senate has consistently recognized outstanding
2 Filipino athletes for their remarkable achievements in prestigious international sports
3 competitions thereby bringing pride and honor to the country;

4 WHEREAS, the Asian Games is a quadrennial continental multi-sport event
5 considered as the biggest and most prestigious athletic tournament in the region.
6 The 19th edition of the Asiad was held in Hangzhou, China from 23 September to 08
7 October 2023, and was participated by more than 12,000 athletes from 45 countries
8 in Asia;

9 WHEREAS, the national basketball team Gilas Pilipinas composed of Justin
10 Brownlee, Ange Kouame, June Mar Fajardo, Scottie Thompson, Japeth Aguilar, Chris
11 Newsome, Calvin Oftana, CJ Perez, Chris Ross, Arvin Tolentino, Kevin Alas and
12 Marcio Lassiter, won the regional championship title after sixty-one years in the
13 finals match against Jordan (70-60) held on 06 October 2023 in Hangzhou Olympic
14 Sports Center;

15 WHEREAS, the glorious and historic triumph of Gilas Pilipinas delivered the
16 country's fourth gold medal in the 19th Asian Games, following the victories of Ernest
17 John Obiena in Men's Pole Vault, Margarita Ochoa in Jiu-jitsu Women's 48-kg class,
18 Annie Ramirez in Jiu-jitsu Women's 57-kg class;

1 WHEREAS, Gilas Pilipinas successfully reclaimed for the country the 5x5 men's
2 basketball regional championship crown it won and held consecutively four times
3 from the 1951 Games in New Delhi, India; 1954 Games in Manila, Philippines; 1958
4 Games in Tokyo, Japan, and lastly in the 1962 Games in Jakarta, Indonesia;

5 WHEREAS, the victory also established Team Philippines as one of the
6 greatest national basketball teams in the region with a total of five gold medals
7 throughout the history of the Asian Games;

8 WHEREAS, Gilas Pilipinas booked their spot at the finals after a sensational
9 and nail-biting victory against the defending champion and host country People's
10 Republic of China via a 77-76 playoff last 04 October 2023. Team Philippines' finals
11 appearance was the first in 33 years, since the country played against China in 1990
12 Beijing Games, when it settled for a second-place finish;

13 WHEREAS, Gilas Pilipinas took on and outplayed basketball powerhouse Iran
14 (84-83) in the October 3 square off to successfully enter the semi-finals for the first
15 time in 21 years, i.e. since 2002 Asiad in Busan, South Korea;

16 WHEREAS, Team Philippines dominated in their early matches in the
17 preliminary rounds: winning convincingly against Bahrain during the September 26
18 match (89-61), and against Thailand during the September 28 game (87-72). The
19 Filipino team advanced to the quarterfinals after a 39-point victory against Qatar
20 during the October 2 event (80-41);

21 WHEREAS, Gilas Pilipinas' astounding comeback against undefeated Jordan
22 comes on the heels of the former's painful loss in the group stage with an 87-62
23 score during the two teams' previous meet last 30 September;

24 WHEREAS, Gilas Pilipinas' historic victory and long-awaited gold medal
25 performance deserve to be celebrated by the Filipino nation who fervently embraces
26 basketball as one of its beloved sports;

27 WHEREAS, the remarkable players of the national basketball team
28 demonstrated unparalleled teamwork and sportsmanship throughout their campaign,
29 and embodied the Filipinos' unyielding spirit and resilience. Their momentous
30 achievement also proves the Filipinos' skill and capacity to succeed in the sport
31 against taller opponents, higher-ranking teams, and seemingly insurmountable odds
32 and challenges;

1 WHEREAS, our exemplary athletes become role models for the younger
2 generation to also take up sports as a worthwhile endeavor and to foster physical
3 health, self-discipline, strength of character, perseverance, and excellence;

4 WHEREAS, Gilas Pilipinas impressively accomplished multiple historic feats in
5 the latest edition of the Asian Games, which culminated in the return of the much-
6 coveted basketball championship to the Philippines;

7 WHEREAS, the success of Gilas Pilipinas, which brings immense pride and
8 honor to the country and exalts the overall image of the nation, merits the highest
9 commendation from the Philippine Senate;

10 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate,
11 to commend and congratulate the Philippine national basketball team Gilas Pilipinas
12 for winning the gold medal in the 19th Asian Games held in Hangzhou, China and
13 reclaiming the continental championship title after sixty-one (61) years;

14 RESOLVED, FURTHER, That a copy of this Resolution be given to each of the
15 players, coaches and the entire team of Gilas Pilipinas.

Adopted,



JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA