

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



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**SENATE**  
**P.S. Res. No. 1014**

RECEIVED BY: 

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Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

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**RESOLUTION**  
**HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF FORMER SENATOR RENE SAGUISAG**

**WHEREAS**, former Senator Rene Augusto V. Saguisag was born in Mauban, Quezon on August 14, 1939;

**WHEREAS**, he completed his primary education at Makati Elementary School, then his secondary course at Rizal High School. He attended San Beda College where he obtained his Bachelor of Arts degree with honors and Bachelor of Laws degree cum laude. He placed 6<sup>th</sup> in the 1963 Philippine Bar Exams. He earned his Master of Laws degree full scholar from Harvard University;

**WHEREAS**, Senator Saguisag was married to Dulce Maramba Quintanas with whom he has five children;

**WHEREAS**, in his youth, he worked as a checker, laborer, construction site guard and messenger. As a legal practitioner, he started out as student researcher, then associate and eventually part time member of Ledesma, Guytingco, Velasco and Saguisag law firm. He was a member of San Beda Law Faculty where he served as assistant dean for a time;

**WHEREAS**, before becoming a Senator, he practiced law as a distinguished human rights lawyer. Senator Saguisag created the Movement of Attorneys for Brotherhood, Integrity and Nationalism (MABINI), together with other human rights lawyers, former Senators Lorenzo Tañada and Joker Arroyo, Vice President Jejomar Binay, former Secretary of Labor Augusto Sanchez and former Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources Fulgencio Factoran. MABINI was founded during the darkest years of the dictatorship to uphold the rule of law against violations of civil liberties and human rights and provided free legal assistance to the martial law victims;

**WHEREAS**, Senator Saguisag was a prominent opposition figure during the martial law years. He played a crucial role as the first spokesman of former President Corazon Aquino, following the 1986 people power revolution;

**WHEREAS**, with his humble beginnings as a human rights lawyer, Senator Saguisag was introduced to the political arena by then President Corazon Aquino in her senatorial slate in 1987. His senatorial candidacy was funded by the Filipino masses through his "Ampunin si Saguisag (adopt Saguisag)" campaign slogan;

**WHEREAS**, he was elected to the Senate in 1987 up to 1992. While serving as Senator, he was chairman of Senate Committee on Ethics and Privilege and Ad Hoc Committee on the Bataan Nuclear Power Plant. He attended all 415 session days from July 1987 to June 1990;

**WHEREAS**, Senator Saguisag may have just served for one term, but he has dedicated his entire life in pursuing justice for every Filipino. He was one of the lead authors of Republic Act No. 6713 or Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees, which now serves as a guiding light to a higher kind of public service, and Republic Act No. 6770 or the Ombudsman Act of 1989. He was also one of the "Magnificent 12" who vehemently opposed the stay of the US military bases in the country;

**WHEREAS**, he continued to fight for human rights after leaving public office until his later years. In 2017, Senator Saguisag formed "Artikulo Tres" composed of young volunteer-lawyers whose advocacy is to defend "Oplan: Tokhang" victims for free, similar to what was done by MABINI;

**WHEREAS**, Senator Saguisag has devoted his life to the rule of law, human rights, good governance and education. He has led a remarkable life that is based on justice, public service, truth and excellence of service;

**WHEREAS**, his countless achievements, and his commitment as a defender of democracy will never be forgotten and will continue to live on in the hearts of the Filipino people;

**WHEREAS**, the Senate expresses its profound sympathy and sincere condolences for the passing of Rene Augusto V. Saguisag, former member of the Senate and veteran human rights lawyer.

**RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the Senate of the Philippines honors the life and legacy of former Senator Rene Saguisag.

Adopted,



**MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY**

