

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

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SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 1017

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

RESOLUTION

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF SENATOR RENE SAGUISAG FOR HIS INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE LEGAL PROFESSION AND GOVERNMENT SERVICE AND EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE ON THE DEMISE OF A RARE GEM IN PHILIPPINE POLITICS

WHEREAS, born on August 14, 1939 in Mauban, Quezon province, Renito "Rene" Augusto Verceluz Saguisag has four children with his late wife Dulce Maramba Quintanas;

WHEREAS, he finished primary school at Makati Elementary School in 1951, his secondary at Rizal High School in 1955, while he graduated from San Beda College-Manila with a Bachelor of Arts degree in 1959;

WHEREAS, he obtained his Bachelor of Laws degree from San Beda, graduating cum laude in 1963, and was the editor-in-chief for Volume 19 of The Bedan, San Beda's official student publication;

WHEREAS, he placed sixth at the 1963 Bar examinations and thereafter, acquired his master of laws degree (full scholar) from Harvard University in 1968;

WHEREAS, Senator Saguisag taught Constitutional Law and Human Rights Law at San Beda Manila and San Beda College-Alabang, and he was recognized by his Alma Mater, such as the "Bedan of the Century" award in 2001 and the Outstanding Golden Jubilarian for the College of Law Class of 1963 in November 2013;

WHEREAS, Senator Saguisag worked as a checker, laborer, construction site guard and messenger from 1959 to 1962, and he became a student researcher, then associate and eventually part time in Ledesma, Guytingco, Velasco and Saguisag from 1962 to 1972;

WHEREAS, he then became an active voice and one of the major figures of the opposition while serving as an ardent human rights defender;

WHEREAS, though imprisoned, he was able to participate in the Free Legal Assistance Group founded by the late senators Jose W. Diokno and Lorenzo M. Tañada and was one of the human rights stalwarts of the Movement of Attorneys from Brotherhood, Integrity and Nationalism or MABINI, which provided free legal aid to human rights victims;

WHEREAS, after the EDSA People Power uprising in 1986, Saguisag would be appointed as spokesperson of the late President Corazon Aquino;

WHEREAS, answering the Clarion call for public service, Saguisag—despite his desire to remain a “common lawyer”—ran for the Philippine Senate in 1987 and placed ninth in the elections, where he would serve as lawmaker from 1987 to 1992;

WHEREAS, while in the Senate, he was chairperson of Senate Committee on Ethics and Privileges and member of the ad hoc committee on the Bataan Nuclear power plant;

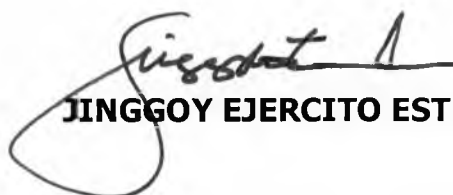
WHEREAS, Senator Saguisag was the primary author of Republic Act No. 6713 or the Code of Conduct and Ethical Standards for Public Officials and Employees

WHEREAS, a true patriot, Senator Saguisag served as a brilliant inspiration to all Filipinos for his work as a lawmaker, a human rights defender, and a well-respected journalist;

Resolved by the Senate of the Philippines, as it is hereby resolved, To honor the life of Senator Rene A.V. Saguisag for his invaluable contributions to the legal profession and society and to express its profound sympathy and sincere condolences on the death of a rare gem in Philippine politics.

Resolved, further, That a copy of this resolution be transmitted to the bereaved family of Senator Saguisag.

Adopted,


JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA