DEMATE

# THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session

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#### SENATE

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P. S. Res. No. 431

### Introduced by Senator Francis N. Pangilinan

## A RESOLUTION GIVING DUE RECOGNITION TO THE LATE CAPTAIN ANIANO AMATONG JR. FOR EXHIBITING HEROISM OF THE HIGHEST ORDER AND DISTINGUISHED AIRMANSHIP WHEN HE SACRIFICED HIS LIFE TO SAVE OTHERS

WHEREAS, on 24 January 2006, a Philippine Air Force OV-10 Bronco aircraft went down at a fishpond in Barangay Binakod, Paombong, Bulacan a few minutes after take off due to engine failure;

WHEREAS, the twin engine OV-10 Bronco plane, which was piloted by 31-year old Captain Aniano Amatong Jr., and 35-year old Captain James Acosta, took off from Major Danilo Atienza Air Base in Sangley Point, Cavite City;

WHEREAS, Captain Amatong, who was the pilot-in-command, and co-pilot Captain Acosta were on their way to Clark Air Base in Pampanga to participate in the airto-ground exercises and Joint Air Attack Training being undertaken by the RP-US Joint Special Operations Training Task Force-Philippines;

WHEREAS, the mishap claimed the life of Captain Amatong who, according to reports, at the time the plane's engine malfunctioned, nose-dived and rapidly lost altitude, decided not to eject, instead maneuvered the plane to avoid colliding into a residential area which may have caused the death of many residents in the area, hence crashed into a fishpond;

WHEREAS, Captain Amatong, son of a retired Army colonel, is a member of Philippine Military Academy class 1996 and Philippine Air Force Flying School Class 1998, is considered a hero by his colleagues because of his supreme sacrifice, typical of his being good-natured, a dependable mistah, an excellent aviator and above all a professional soldier;

WHEREAS, despite his brief stint in the Philippine Air Force, he has earned many medals and awards including four Gold Cross Medals, which is the third highest combat award of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, for his courageous and selfless participation in combat missions in Mindanao;

WHEREAS, putting others above oneself truly speaks of the unconditional heroism displayed by Captain Amatong and said gallantry serves as an inspiration to the men and women of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, especially to the airmen and women of the Philippine Air Force; **RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved,** that the Senate of the Philippines extends its profound appreciation for and gives due recognition to the late Captain Aniano Amatong Jr. for the ultimate sacrifice of giving up his own life to save others.

## ADOPTED,

FRANCIS N. BANGILINAN