

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

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SENATE

RECEIVED BY:

P. Senate Resolution No. 470

*Introduced by Senators M.A. Madrigal, Aquilino Q. Pimentel, Jr.,
Luisa "Loi" P. Ejercito Estrada, and Alfredo S. Lim*

**RESOLUTION
HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF
DR. ESTEFANIA ALDABA-LIM**

WHEREAS, Dr. Estefania Aldaba-Lim has made a name for herself in the local and international realm of public service and women's causes;

WHEREAS, Dr. Aldaba-Lim, a graduate of Bachelor of Education, major in Secondary Education, from the Philippine Women's University, and M.A. Psychology at the University of the Philippines, was awarded the Levi Barbour Scholarship for Oriental Women at the University of Michigan (UM), USA, where she eventually pursued her Ph.D. in Clinical Psychology;

WHEREAS, upon her return to the Philippines, she became the first Filipino woman psychologist in 1948 and set up the Institute of Human Relations at the Philippine Women's University;

WHEREAS, she holds the distinction of having been one of the first women appointed as Cabinet members in government, serving as Secretary of the then Department of Social Services and Development (now DSWD) from the years 1971 to 1977;

WHEREAS, she was a founding member and past president of the Philippine Mental Health Association and has also been actively involved in the work of a number of other organizations concerned with child psychology, family life and human relations and held the post of Chairman of the Population Commission of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, Dr. Lim is the author of books on human relations and children in conflict with the law and has published over 100 scientific research papers and articles on a wide variety of subjects, including many dealing with children's problems;

WHEREAS, her dedication and deep interest in programs involving women and children paved the way for her appointment as Special Representative for the International Year of the Child in 1979 and became the first woman to become special ambassador to the United Nations with the rank of assistant secretary general;

WHEREAS, she was the first Filipino woman to assume such a senior post in the United Nations with specific goals to prepare for the global observance of the International Year of the Child in 1979;

WHEREAS, as special ambassador to the UN for the International Year of the Child in 1979, she made a grueling trip to around 65 countries in a span of 2 years and laid the foundation for the UN Declaration on the Rights of the Child, a landmark document affording protection for all the rights of children of the world;

WHEREAS, for all her efforts and contributions, she received the UN Peace Medal Award from then UN Secretary General Kurt Waldheim;

WHEREAS, continuing her lasting legacy as a champion for children, she co-founded the Museo Pambata in 1994, the first children's museum in the Philippines, a venue for alternative learning for children, especially those without access to formal education;

WHEREAS, she also chaired the Council for Welfare of Children and was a former member of Sagip Kabataan and CARITAS;

WHEREAS, in 2001, at the age of 84, she became the founding chair of the Women of Malolos Foundation, whose aim is to keep alive the principles and heroism of the 21 Women of Malolos;

WHEREAS, with her roster of achievements, she still fulfilled her primary role as mother and raised six children on her own when her husband, Luis Lim, Sr., passed away in 1962;

WHEREAS, during her last days, she was still actively involved in community work, spending her 89th birthday last 6 January 2006 in San Jose del Monte, Bulacan, distributing various goods to the beneficiaries of her housing project, the 50-unit Gawad Kalinga Aldaba hills housing village;

WHEREAS, Dr. Estefania Aldaba-Lim, or "Tita Fanny" to her loved ones and colleagues, died on 7 March 2006, a day short of International Women's Day, 8 March 2006;

WHEREAS, her memory should continue to inspire future generations of women in the field of public service for being a pioneer in modernizing social welfare and development programs and for her unwavering commitment to her passion, which is worthy of emulation;

WHEREAS, hers is a legacy of women empowerment and her life is a fitting tribute to women all over the world who have the power to transform lives;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, for the Senate to:

1. Extend our deepest sympathy and condolences to the family of the late Dr. Estefania Aldaba-Lim; and,
2. Express our recognition and admiration for the invaluable contributions to humanity made by Dr. Estefania Aladaba-Lim over her long and distinguished life and career.

Adopted,


AQUILINO Q. PIMENTEL, JR.


M.A. MADRIGAL


ALFREDO S. LIM


LUISA "LOI" E. EJERCITO ESTRADA