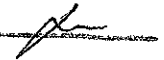


THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )

6 MAY 18 P4:00

SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 484

RECEIVED BY: 

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Introduced by Senator Manny Villar

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**RESOLUTION**

**COMMENDING HERACLEO "LEO" ORACION FOR BEING THE FIRST FILIPINO TO REACH THE SUMMIT OF MOUNT EVEREST AND THE ENTIRE FIRST PHILIPPINE MOUNT EVEREST EXPEDITION (FPMEE) FOR THEIR COURAGE, PERSEVERANCE, AND THEIR OUTSTANDING FEAT THAT HAS BOOSTED THE FILIPINO'S IMAGE IN THE WORLD**

**WHEREAS**, 32-year-old triathlete Heracleo "Leo" Oracion reached the summit of the 8,848-meter (29,028-foot) Mount Everest at 3:30 p.m., Nepal time, or 5:30 p.m., Manila time yesterday, May 17, 2006, and planted the Philippine flag;

**WHEREAS**, Oracion had to fight of exhaustion, the thin air, and the cold (sometimes dropping to as low as -60 degrees Celsius) to reach the peak. He also had to break blocks of ice and make a path for himself;

**WHEREAS**, "The Philippine eagle has landed," was the radio message of Oracion to Arturo Valdez, leader of the First Philippine Mount Everest Expedition;

**WHEREAS**, Valdez said, "A Filipino on top of Everest was for him a dream come true." He added that, "We showed the whole world that if we get our act together we can accomplish anything. ";

**WHEREAS**, FPMEE team leader Regie Pablo described Oracion as "a good person who takes very good care of his teammates.";

**WHEREAS**, Oracion was among a 30-member team composed of Swiss, Korean and American mountaineers as well as Sherpas, indigenous people who serve as guides and climbing partners. The team was slowed down considerably upon reaching the Hillary Step, a 40-foot wall of rock around an hour to the summit;


**WHEREAS**, a second Filipino mountaineer, Erwin "Pastor" Emata, reached the summit of Mount Everest at around 6:00 a.m. today, May 18, 2006;

**WHEREAS**, a third Filipino mountaineer, Romeo Garduce, is also expected to reach the summit of Mount Everest soon;

**WHEREAS**, Oracion and other Filipino mountaineers who conquered Mount Everest have have done the nation proud and have shown the world the Filipinos capacity to excel;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES**, to commend Heracleo "Leo" Oracion for being the first Filipino to reach the summit of Mount Everest and the entire First Philippine Mount Everest Expedition (FPMEE) for their courage, perseverance, and their outstanding feat that has boosted the Filipino's image in the world.

Adopted,

  
**MANNY VILLAR**  
Senator