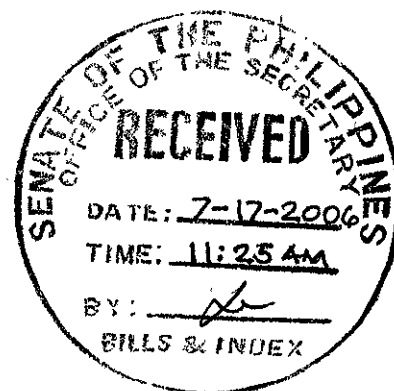


THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)



S E N A T E

P. S. RES. NO. 509

Introduced by Senator Villar

RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE GRATITUDE AND APPRECIATION OF THE SENATE TO THE HONORABLE FRANKLIN M. DRILON FOR HIS DEDICATED SERVICE TO THE SENATE AS ITS PRESIDENT

WHEREAS, the Honorable Franklin M. Drilon has served the Senate as its President from April 12, 2000 to November 13, 2000 and from July 23, 2001 up to July 24, 2006;

WHEREAS, during his tenure as Senate President, he has performed his duties with utmost dedication and firm commitment to uphold the principles of democracy, thereby reaffirming the role of the Senate as the unassailable bastion of checks and balances:

WHEREAS, under his able leadership, the members of the Senate collectively responded to his call to address the urgent needs of the country by enacting major legislation which contributed to the country's stability, notably measures that would optimize the revenue-generation capability and collection by the government; increase various taxes with the aim of enhancing government income; ensure that the Philippines shall not be used as a money laundering site for the proceeds of unlawful activities; allow overseas Filipinos to exercise their right of suffrage; protect housing tenants in the lower income brackets from unreasonable rent increases; ensure transparency, competitiveness and efficiency in the procurement procedures in government; establish a comprehensive juvenile justice and welfare system; penalize trafficking in persons especially women and children; allow the creation of Special Purpose Vehicles to invest in or acquire non-performing assets; allow Filipinos who have another citizenship to retain or re-acquire Philippine citizenship; and prohibit the imposition of death penalty;

WHEREAS, committed to uphold the sanctity of the Constitution, he led the Senate in denouncing executive acts that transgressed the fundamental law and impaired the right and prerogative of the Senate to conduct inquiries in aid of legislation, which acts were later declared unconstitutional by the Supreme Court, thereby vindicating the united position of the Senate;

WHEREAS, amidst conflicting issues affecting national interest, he patiently presided over the deliberations of the Senate with full respect for the views and opinions of every Member, guiding them in effectively addressing all pressing public issues in free, open, and democratic debates;


WHEREAS, under his exemplary leadership, the Senate asserted its role as fiscalizer of the government by conducting investigations on the Venable LLP contract, the fertilizer scam, the North Rail project, COMELEC modernization scam, and the Marcos ill-gotten wealth fund diversion;

WHEREAS, his election as President of the Senate from April 12, 2000 to November 13, 2000 and from July 23, 2001 to July 24, 2006 is an unprecedented achievement in the history of the Philippine Senate under the 1987 Constitution and is a confirmation and reaffirmation of the trust and confidence bestowed on him by his colleagues;

WHEREAS, his exemplary performance and dedicated leadership in the Senate, worthy of the praise and appreciation of his Colleagues in the Upper Chamber and the Filipino people in general, has resulted in fruitful deliberations during the Eleventh, Twelfth and Thirteenth Congresses: Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, To express, as it hereby expresses, its gratitude and appreciation to the Honorable Franklin M. Drilon for his dedicated service to the Senate as its President.

Adopted,


MANNY VILLAR
Senator