EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

Second Regular Session

SENATE

P.S. Res. No. <u>544</u>



Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES ON THE DEATH OF ENVIRONMENTALIST AND FORMER NEGROS OCCIDENTAL GOVERNOR ALFREDO G. MARAÑON JR.

WHEREAS, the Philippine Senate has in several occasions paid its respects to remarkable Filipinos for their legacy and contribution to society;

WHEREAS, farmer, engineer, and former Negros Occidental Governor Alfredo G. Marañon Jr. passed away due to complications with his cardiac health on 1 October 2020 at the age of 84;

WHEREAS, Alfredo G. Marañon Jr., was born on 21 December 1935 in Sagay, Negros Occidental to spouses Salvacion Galicia and Alfredo Marañon Sr.;

WHEREAS, Alfredo G. Marañon Jr.'s government service spans over five decades. Before serving Negros Occidental as its Governor from 2010-2019, he began his career as a public servant by being a councilor of Sagay in 1964, later served as Vice Mayor, and eventually elected as Mayor of the city in 1972 before he went on to be an assemblyman of the Batasang Pambansa thereafter;

WHEREAS, in 1988 he was elected as mayor once more and in 1992 he was voted to serve as Vice Governor of his province. He ran for a congressional post as Representative in 1995, where he served three consecutive terms, and in 2007 he went back to his city to be its mayor once more;

WHEREAS, former Governor Alfredo G. Marañon Jr. catapulted Negros Occidental as a food sufficient agricultural province through his Negros First! campaign creating opportunities for his constituency. His passion for organic farming was evident as his term as Governor saw the emergence of organic agriculture across the province as it yielded 15,000 hectares of organic farms with 12,920 organic farmers;

WHEREAS, as an environmentalist, former Governor Alfredo G. Marañon Jr. championed the cause of the environment. In March 2019, he declared Negros Occidental as coal-free as he prohibited the entry of coal-fired power plants in the province. He also signed an Executive Order declaring that only clean and renewable sources of energy will be allowed in the province;

WHEREAS, former Governor Alfredo G. Marañon Jr. is also credited for placing Negros Occidental as a major ecotourism spot for his establishment of the Sagay Marine Reserve.

WHEREAS, established in the 1970s, the Sagay Marine Reserve is a 32,000-hectare marine reserve, composed of Carbin Reef, Macahulom and Panal Reef, as well as Molocaboc Daku and Diot islands, and Suyac islet, brimming with aquatic diversity. Tourists travel the area to witness its white sand beaches, different fishes, sea turtles, migratory birds, coral formations and other marine wonders, and centuries-old mangrove trees.

WHEREAS, his passing is a great loss not only to his bereaved family and the Negrenses but to the entire Filipino nation as well;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines to express its profound sympathy and sincere condolences on the death of environmentalist and former Negros Occidental Governor Alfredo G. Marañon Jr.

Adopted,

WAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI