

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

23 MAY 16 P3:49

SENATE
P.S. Res. No. 615

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Introduced by **Senators Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid and Francis G. Escudero**

RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF
THE SENATE ON THE DEATH OF REVERED STATESMAN FROM NUEVA VIZCAYA
GOV. CARLOS PADILLA

WHEREAS, Gov. Carlos Padilla passed away at age 78 on May 5, 2023. He was laid to rest on Saturday, May 13, 2023, in this Dupax del Norte, Nueva Vizcaya, where he served as the first mayor in the early 1970s and where his storied political career began;

WHEREAS, Gov. Padilla was a beloved and respected member of the Philippine political community, known for his kindness, generosity, and dedication to public service;

WHEREAS, Gov. Padilla served with distinction and dedication, and worked tirelessly to improve the lives of Filipinos, especially his fellow Novo Vizcayanons;

WHEREAS, Representing the province Nueva Vizcaya, Padilla served Congress for 29 years as assemblyman and congressman in various capacities;¹

WHEREAS, as Education Committee chairman, he authored the landmark law *Free High School Act of 1988* (R.A. No. 6655) that guaranteed free high school education for every Filipino, and R.A. No. 6728, providing various forms of government assistance to students and teachers in private education. Gov. Padilla is widely regarded as "Father of Free Public Secondary Education;"

¹ Domingo, Leander. *Padilla laid to rest in Dupax del Norte*. Manilatimes.net (14 May 2023). Retrieved from: <https://www.manilatimes.net/2023/05/14/regions/padilla-laid-to-rest-in-dupax-del-norte/1891428>

WHEREAS, as governor of Nueva Vizcaya, he was recognized for his utmost care for the environment and agriculture, community development, initiatives on good governance and welfare of indigenous peoples, among others;

WHEREAS, the National Roundtable against Metals Mining in El Salvador and International Allies of the Roundtable described Gov. Padilla as “a visionary environmental leader.” They extended their gratitude to the Philippines “for sharing Governor Padilla with us;”²

WHEREAS, Gov. Padilla was crucial in the historic vote of the Salvadoran legislature banning metals mining to protect rivers. In his own province, he was vocal against the presence of Australian mining company OceanaGold Philippines Incorporated and questioned the sustainability and benefits of mining;³

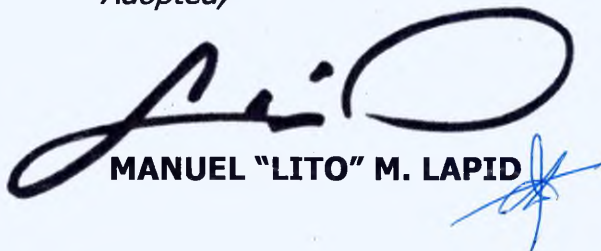
WHEREAS, Gov. Padilla was a devoted husband, father, and grandfather, who will be greatly missed by his family, friends, and colleagues;

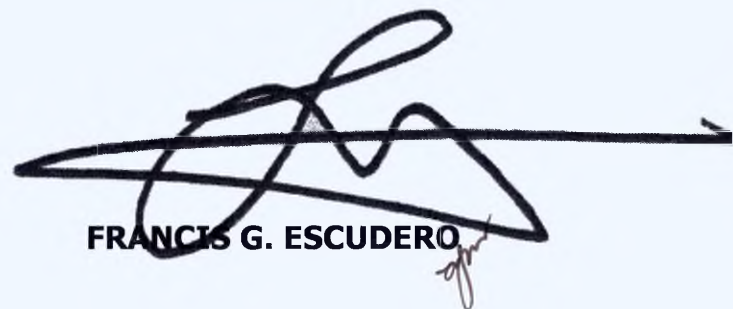
WHEREAS, the Senate wishes to extend its deepest condolences to the family of Gov. Carlos Padilla, and to express its gratitude for his many years of service to our country and the people of Nueva Vizcaya;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, the Senate expresses the profound sympathy and sincere condolences on the death of revered statesman from Nueva Vizcaya Gov. Carlos Padilla;

RESOLVED, FURTHER, that a copy of this resolution be furnished to the family of Gov. Carlos Padilla, and that the same be entered into the records of the Senate.

Adopted,


MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID


FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

² Gozum, Iya. *Salvadoran environmentalists honor Nueva Vizcaya Governor Carlos Padilla*. Rappler.com. (14 May 2023). Retrieved from: <https://www.rappler.com/environment/salvadoran-environmentalists-honor-nueva-vizcaya-governor-carlos-padilla-may-2023/>

³ *Ibid.*