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NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES *Third Regular Session*

SENATE

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P. S. RES. No. <u>1074</u>

Introduced by Senator FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING GRATITUDE AND COMMENDATION TO SENATOR JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" ANGARA FOR HIS INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SENATE AND TO THE NATION AS A SENATOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

1 WHEREAS, Senator Juan Edgardo "Sonny" Angara is a seasoned legislator and 2 public servant who has been a lawmaker for two decades, serving three consecutive 3 terms as Representative of the Lone District of Aurora (2004 to 2013) before serving 4 as a Senator for two consecutive terms (2013 to 2024);

5 WHEREAS, building upon the brilliant legacy of his parents, former Senate 6 President Edgardo Angara and educator Gloria Manalang-Angara, Senator Angara has 7 long been a champion of delivering accessible quality education to the Filipino youth, 8 pushing for the passage of landmark education measures such as the Universal Access 9 to Quality Tertiary Education Act, the Unified Student Financial Assistance System Act, 10 the Student Fare Discount Act, the Free Kindergarten Law; the Ladderized Education 11 Act, the Inclusive Education Act, and the Enhanced Basic Education Act, and the 12 Second Congressional Commission on Education (EDCOM II) Act;

WHEREAS, as Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Finance in the 18th and 19th Congresses, Senator Angara has been instrumental in shaping our national development initiatives through his meticulous handling of the annual General Appropriations Act, especially within the context of the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, for which he also spearheaded the passage of key measures such as the Bayanihan to Recover as One Act, the COVID-19 Vaccination Program Act, and the Public Health Emergency Benefits and Allowances for Health Care Workers Act;

1 WHEREAS, under his leadership as Chairperson of the Committee on Finance, 2 he also pursued the passage of the Marawi Siege Victims Compensation Act of 2022, 3 to provide reparation and compensation to families affected by the armed conflict in 4 Marawi; the New Government Procurement Act to expedite procurement, minimize 5 corruption, and maximize the use of public funds; the Tatak Pinoy Act, in line with his 6 long-held advocacy to bridge the public and private sectors toward building more 7 competitive industries for Filipino goods and services, leading to higher job creation 8 and economic growth; and the Salary Standardization Law of 2019, which resulted in 9 increased salaries for civil servants to address the rising costs of essential daily 10 expenses such as food, transportation, and education;

11 WHEREAS, with his expertise in government finance and his belief in effective 12 taxation as a tool for national development, he also chaired the Senate Committee on 13 Ways and Means in the 17th Congress, through which he pushed for the passage of 14 the Tax Incentives Management and Transparency Act, the Estate Tax Amnesty Act, 15 the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act, and the Tax Reform Acceleration and 16 Inclusion Act, among others;

WHEREAS, as the Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Labor, Employment,
and Human Resources, he led the passage of vital laws to protect and empower
Filipino workers, including the Expanded PESO (Public Employment Service Office) Act,
the Seafarers Protection Act, the Philippine Green Jobs Act, the JobStart Philippines
Act, and the Expanded SPES (Special Program for Employment of Students) Act;

WHEREAS, an ardent believer in engaging the Filipino youth as stakeholders in the future of the nation, Senator Angara served as a Commissioner of the Second Congressional Commission on Education, where he took part in the comprehensive review of the nation's education landscape, and as the Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Youth, where he sponsored the Sangguniang Kabataan Reform Act, to strengthen youth participation in community- and nation-building;

WHEREAS, the appointment of Senator Angara as the Secretary of the Department of Education bodes well for the future of the Filipino youth, given his track record as a legislator who has been steadfast in his efforts to improve access to education, which he has identified as our most important tool against poverty;

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WHEREAS, for his outstanding performance as a senator and for his
 contributions to the Senate's accomplishments during the 16th to the 19th Congresses,
 Senator Angara deserves the gratitude and commendation of this august Chamber:
 Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Senate express its gratitude and commendation to Senator
Juan Edgardo "Sonny" Angara for his invaluable contributions to the Senate and the
nation as a senator of the Republic of the Philippines.

Adopted,