

Republic of the Philippines  
Congress of the Philippines  
Senate  
Manila City

Seventeenth Congress

Second Regular Session



RESOLUTION NO. 105

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND  
SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF  
THE SENATE ON THE DEMISE OF FORMER  
SENATE PRESIDENT EDGARDO J. ANGARA

WHEREAS, the Honorable Edgardo J. Angara, a distinguished public servant, statesman, legislator, patriot, educator, banker, lawyer, art patron, and farmer, passed away on May 13, 2018, at the age of 83;

WHEREAS, his illustrious and colorful career as a public servant spanned almost five decades, with him serving as a delegate in the 1971 Constitutional Convention, President of the University of the Philippines (1981-1987), Senator (1987-1992; 1992-1998; 2001-2007; and 2007-2013),

Senate President (1993-1995), Chairman of the Commission on Appointments (1993-1995), Senate Minority Leader (1995-1996), Chairman of the Philippine National Bank (1998-1999), Secretary of Agriculture (1999-2001), Executive Secretary (2001), and Special Envoy to the European Union (2017);

WHEREAS, born to a middle class family in Baler, Aurora, the bright young "Edong" was a product of the public school system and later obtained his Bachelor of Laws degree from the University of the Philippines (U.P.) in 1958 and Master of Laws as a Clyde Alton Dewitt Fellow from the University of Michigan in 1964;

WHEREAS, for his exemplary performance as a law student, he became a member of the Order of the Purple Feather, the U.P. College of Law Honor Society, and two international honor societies: the Phi Kappa Phi and Phi Gamma Mu;

WHEREAS, as a young lawyer, he first worked as an assistant attorney in a major law firm and, after gaining extensive knowledge, ability, and experience in the practice of law, co-founded Angara, Abello, Concepcion, Regala, and Cruz Law Offices (ACCRALAW) in 1972;

WHEREAS, for his outstanding leadership and achievements as a law practitioner and public servant, he was elected president of various law organizations, such as the Philippine Bar Association (1975), Integrated Bar of the Philippines (IBP) (1979), Association of Southeast Asian Nation (ASEAN) Law Association (1980), and Southeast Asia Parliamentarians Against Corruption (SEAPAC) (2005);

WHEREAS, as President of U.P., he indefatigably exerted efforts to uphold the university's reputation for academic excellence as the county's premier educational center, demonstrating unrelenting concern and persistence in upgrading the standards of the academe, in vastly improving the financial and human resources of the state university, in rationalizing the tuition fees for the financially-disadvantaged students, in defending its tradition of dissent and fiscal autonomy, and in establishing stronger

links with the business community and alumni organizations, both domestic and abroad;

WHEREAS, in his honor, the U.P. Board of Regents created the U.P. President Edgardo J. Angara Fellowship Program in 2008, under which outstanding members of the faculty may pursue research and studies on policy matters involving great public interest;

WHEREAS, as Secretary of the Department of Agriculture, he was the chief steward in increasing production, increasing markets, correcting policy biases, and promoting the cause of agriculture and fisheries;

WHEREAS, he was a recipient of numerous awards, recognitions, and citations, local and international, notably: U.P.'s Most Distinguished Alumnus Award (1981), U.P. College of Law's Highest Professional Award, Quezon Province's Medalya ng Karangalan, Aurora Province's Dangal ng Aurora Award for Public Service, IBP's Lifetime Achievement Award; Spain *Premio Casa Asia* in 2010, France's *Commandeur dans l'ordre des Palmes* medal, Singapore's Lee Kuan Yew Fellow, and Japan's Cordon of the Rising Sun;

WHEREAS, firmly believing that it is the duty of the people to ensure free, orderly, and honest elections, he actively participated in the organization of the National Citizens' Movement for Free Elections (Namfrel), which served as the election watchdog in the 1986 "snap elections";

WHEREAS, after the 1986 EDSA People Power Revolution and the ratification of the 1987 Constitution, he ran in the 1987 senatorial election and ranked fifth among the twenty-four senators who were elected;

WHEREAS, as Senator, he chaired various committees, most notably the Congressional Commission on Education (EDCOM) (1990-1991) and the Congressional Commission on Agricultural Modernization (1997-1998);

WHEREAS, throughout his long and productive career as a legislator, he consistently advocated for and authored landmark legislation that made a direct impact on the lives of millions of Filipinos, particularly laws on agriculture, education, health, arts and culture, science and technology, good governance, financial reforms, and social welfare, such as the Free High School Education Act, the Government Assistance to Students and Teachers in Private Education Act, the Generics Act, the National Health Insurance Act (Philhealth), the Senior Citizens Act, the Agricultural and Fisheries Modernization Act, the Government Procurement Reform Act, the Renewable Energy Act, the Commission on Higher Education, the Technical Education and Skill Development Authority, the Magna Carta for Public Health Workers, the National Museum Act of 1998, the National Commission on Culture and the Arts, the Natatanging Manlilikha Award, the Ombudsman Law, the National Cultural Heritage Law, and the establishment of the Aurora Special Economic Zone Authority, which was later changed to Aurora Pacific Economic Zone and Freeport Authority;

WHEREAS, as Senate President he maintained his reputation as a resolute reformer and firm leader by guiding the Senate through one of the most productive moments in its history, encouraging the members of the Upper Chamber to introduce vital economic and social reform laws that brought the country's economic and social regime towards sustainable growth and more equitable development;

WHEREAS, the demise of a great leader and true champion of the people's fundamental rights is a great loss to the nation;

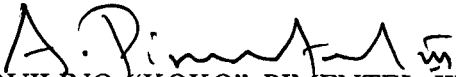
WHEREAS, the members of this august Chamber join the whole nation and his family in their moment of bereavement over the departure of a great man and esteemed public servant: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the Senate of the Philippines, To express, as it hereby expresses, its profound sympathy and*


sincere condolences on the demise of former Senate President Edgardo J. Angara.

*Resolved, further,* That a copy of this Resolution be transmitted to the bereaved family of former Senate President Edgardo J. Angara.

Adopted,

  
AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III  
*President of the Senate*

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on  
May 15, 2018.

  
LUTGARDO B. BARBO  
*Secretary of the Senate*

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