

**SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)**



Senate
Office of the Secretary

15 JAN 26 P3:28

S E N A T E

P. S. Resolution No. 1130

RECEIVED BY. *J.*

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE TO URGE NATIONAL AGENCIES TO WORK COLLABORATIVELY WITH THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF THE CITY OF VIGAN FOR ITS CONTINUED PRESERVATION AS A LIVABLE HERITAGE CITY IN LIGHT OF ITS SUCCESSFUL INCLUSION AS ONE OF NEW7WONDERS CITIES OF THE WORLD

WHEREAS, Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall conserve, promote and protect the nation's historical and cultural heritage and resources, which shall form part of all its artistic and historic wealth;

WHEREAS, under Republic Act No. 10066 or the National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009, local government units are required to work closely with national agencies for conservation and protection of historical and cultural heritage, and shall be responsible for the maintenance of heritage zones within their jurisdictions provided that these efforts shall be within guidelines as prescribed by the law;

WHEREAS, the city of Vigan is a concrete example of how communities should work to be aware of their heritage, which should be appreciated, preserved and properly utilized to achieve meaningful and sustainable progress;

WHEREAS, in its commitment to conserve and preserve heritage, the local government of Vigan has developed a conservation complex, comprised of a "house depot" where materials for restoration are stored and made accessible to the public, of training centers equipping the community with the necessary skills to preserve heritage and of museums showcasing the richness of culture, among many others;

WHEREAS, in addition to this, a three-hectare "heritage park" of indigenous architecture showcasing the landmarks and arts and crafts found among the provinces of the old Ilocos Region--the Ilocos provinces, La Union, Abra and parts of Mountain Province, is also being planned by the local government of Vigan;

WHEREAS, on 10 October 2013, the New7Wonders Foundation, a private organization based in Zurich, Switzerland and dedicated towards the "protection of the world's human-built and natural heritage and the

promotion of respect for the planet's diversity," announced the inclusion of the historic city of Vigan in the province of Ilocos Sur in the long list of its New7Wonders Cities campaign;

WHEREAS, like the New7Wonders of the World which celebrated human-built global heritage and the New7Wonders of Nature that included the country's own Puerto Princesa Underground River in Palawan, this New7Wonders Cities campaign wants to generate public attention on the challenges faced by cities all over the world wherein an estimated half of the global population live;

WHEREAS, on 7 December 2014 and after the tallying of millions of online votes generated through communication technologies and social media, the inclusion of Vigan City as one of the New7Wonders Cities was formally announced, together with Beirut in Lebanon, Doha in Qatar, Durban in South Africa, Havana in Cuba, Kuala Lumpur in Malaysia and La Paz in Bolivia;

WHEREAS, this award recognizes the long-standing efforts and utmost dedication of the local government and residents of the Historic City of Vigan in conserving and preserving its intangible heritage as a World Heritage Site and is further highlighted by the city's 2012 award for "Best Practice in World Heritage Site Management";

WHEREAS, this recognition further highlights the important role played by local government units in safeguarding the historical and intangible heritage of World Heritage sites like the city of Vigan and of other key heritage zones found in the country;

WHEREAS, cognizant of the perseverance of the local government of Vigan and its residents to preserve history and culture while working towards sustainable development, it is but fitting that the local government of Vigan and its residents be recognized and commended;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to express the sense of the Senate to urge national agencies to work collaboratively with the local government and residents of the city of Vigan for its continued preservation as a livable heritage city in light of its successful inclusion as one of New7Wonders Cities of the world.

Adopted,


LOREN LEGARDA
Senator