

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines
Senate
Pasay City

Nineteenth Congress

Third Regular Session



RESOLUTION No. 235

RESOLUTION CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING
THE APPOINTMENT OF HIS EXCELLENCY, MOST
REVEREND PABLO VIRGILIO SIONGCO DAVID,
BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF KALOOKAN, AS
NEW CARDINAL OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH

WHEREAS, the Philippine Senate has consistently recognized outstanding Filipinos who bring honor and glory to the nation through their remarkable feats and prestigious awards;

WHEREAS, on October 6, 2024, His Holiness Pope Francis named His Excellency, Most Reverend Pablo Virgilio Siongco David, Bishop of the Diocese of Kalookan, as a new cardinal of the Catholic Church, to be elevated on December 7, 2024, in the Vatican;

WHEREAS, the Diocese of Kalookan's first cardinal-designate, fondly called Bishop Ambo, is the 10th Filipino "prince" of the Catholic Church since 1960 and the third raised by Pope Francis;

WHEREAS, Bishop Ambo will be joining the other living cardinals – Cardinal Gaudencio Rosales, Cardinal Orlando Quevedo, Cardinal Jose Advincula, and Cardinal Luis Antonio Tagle – in helping Pope Francis bridge the local churches to the universal Catholic Church, proclaim God's goodwill, and shepherd the faithful;

WHEREAS, Bishop Ambo was born on March 2, 1959, in Betis, Guagua, Pampanga, to spouses Pedro Sahagun David and Bienvenida Sanchez Siongco. He found his priestly vocation at an early age in his catechism class, the Eucharist, and his fondness for the Pampanga Church's heritage, especially the grand Betis Church;

WHEREAS, Bishop Ambo, was ordained priest in 1983, appointed as Auxiliary Bishop of the Archdiocese of San Fernando in 2006, and designated as Bishop of the Diocese of Kalookan in 2015;

WHEREAS, a priest for 41 years, Bishop Ambo is one of the country's leading bible scholars with a licentiate and doctorate in sacred theology from the Catholic University of Louvain and training from the École Biblique et Archéologique Française de Jérusalem;

WHEREAS, as bishop for the last 18 years, Bishop Ambo became President (2021 to present) and former Vice President (2017 to 2021) of the Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines (CBCP). He is the incoming Vice President of the Federation of Asian Bishops Conference in January 2025;

WHEREAS, Bishop Ambo is also one of the leading voices against inhumane government policies that violate human rights and trample on human dignity, such as the violent and bloody war on drugs that stigmatized and traumatized the impoverished communities of the Diocese of Kalookan, which covers the cities of Caloccan, Navotas, and Malabon;

WHEREAS, the elevation of Bishop Ambo as the country's new cardinal comes at a most special time as the communities of faithful prepare for the opening and observance of the Holy Year of the Jubilee 2025, as an opportunity to be renewed in hope in Christ, with the Church: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the Philippines, To congratulate and commend the appointment of His Excellency, Most Reverend Pablo Virgilio Siongco David, Bishop of the Diocese of Kalookan, as new cardinal of the Catholic Church.

Adopted,



FRANCIS "CHIZ" G. ESCUDERO
President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on December 10, 2024.



RENATO N. BANTUG Jr.
Secretary of the Senate

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