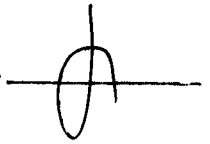


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SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 1305

RECEIVED



Introduced by **SENATOR CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**

RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES ON THE DEATH OF HONORABLE EDCEL C. LAGMAN, ALBAY 1ST DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE, ON 30 JANUARY 2025

WHEREAS, the Philippine Senate has in several occasions paid its respects to remarkable Filipinos for their legacy and contribution to the country;

WHEREAS, Honorable Edcel C. Lagman, Representative of Albay 1st District, died due to cardiac arrest on January 30, 2025 at the age of eighty-two (82) years old;

WHEREAS, Representative Lagman was born on May 1, 1942 in Malinao, Albay to spouses Pedro Eduardo Diaz Lagman and Cecilia Castelar;¹

WHEREAS, Representative Lagman earned his Bachelor of Arts in Political Science degree from the University of the Philippines (UP) in 1962. He later obtained his Bachelor of Laws degree from UP in 1966, where he served as editor of the UP Law Register from 1962 to 1963, as University Councilor of the UP Student Council in 1964, and as Managing Editor of the Philippine Collegian in 1965. He also received his Doctor of Humanities degree, honoris causa, from the Bicol University in 2013;²

WHEREAS, prior to his successful career as a seasoned legislator, Representative Lagman was appointed as the Undersecretary of the Department of Budget and Management in 1986. He was later elected as member of the House of Representatives, representing Albay 1st District, which position he has held for twenty-

¹ <https://www.rappler.com/people/profiles/edcel-lagman-background-advocacies-human-rights-reproductive-health-champion/>

² <https://edcellagman.ph/about>

nine (29) years during the Eight to Tenth Congresses from 1987 to 1998, during the Thirteenth to Fifteenth Congresses from 2004 to 2013, and during the Seventeenth to Nineteenth Congresses from 2016 until his passing in 2025.³

WHEREAS, during his tenure in the House of Representatives, Representative Lagman served as Senior Deputy Minority Leader (Ninth and Tenth Congresses), Deputy Minority leader (Thirteenth Congress), and Minority Leader (Fifteenth Congress). He also led the Magnificent 7 Opposition Bloc, the authentic minority bloc in Congress (Seventeenth Congress). He chaired several congressional committees, namely Committees on Appropriations, Overseas Workers Affairs, Justice, and Agrarian Reform.⁴

WHEREAS, Representative Lagman was referred to as the "Father of the RH Law" for principally authoring Republic Act (RA) No. 10354, or "The Responsible Parenthood and Reproductive Health Act of 2012". He was dubbed by former President Fidel Ramos as the "Lion of Congress for the Reproductive Health Bill" and was recognized by the European Parliamentary Forum on Population and Development in May 2012 and the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development in October 2012 for his crucial role in the enactment of this important legislative measure.⁵

WHEREAS, Representative Lagman was also known as a firm advocate of human rights, good governance, education, and social justice. He authored several landmark legislations, including Republic Act (RA) No. 10368, or the "Human Rights Victims Reparation and Recognition Act of 2013"; RA 10353, or the "Anti-Enforced or Involuntary Disappearance Act of 2012"; RA 9745, or the "Anti-Torture Act of 2009"; RA No. 9502, or the "Universally Accessible Cheaper and Quality Medicines Act of 2008"; RA No. 6655, or the "Free Public Secondary Education Act of 1988"; and RA 6657, or the "Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law of 1988".⁶

WHEREAS, beyond his achievements in public service and his progressive policies, Representative Lagman will be remembered for his integrity, compassion, fearlessness, principled leadership, and sacrifices in fighting for the Filipino people's rights;

WHEREAS, the demise of Representative Lagman is a great loss not only to his bereaved family and the *Bicolanos*, but to entire Filipino nation as well,

³ <https://www.philstar.com/headlines/2025/01/30/2418023/liberal-party-president-edcel-lagman-passes-away-82>

⁴ <https://edcellagman.ph/about>

⁵ *Ibid.*

⁶ *Ibid.*

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines, to express its profound sympathy and sincere condolences on the death of Honorable Edcel C. Lagman, Albay 1st District Representative, on 30 January 2025;

RESOLVED, FURTHER, That copies of this Resolution be furnished to the bereaved family of Representative Edcel C. Lagman.

Adopted,


CYNTHIA A. VILLAR