

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

24 JUL 23 P1:44

SENATE

P. S. Res. No. 1075

RECEIVED BY

Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada

RESOLUTION

COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING STRONG GROUP-PILIPINAS BASKETBALL TEAM FOR WINNING THE CHAMPIONSHIP TITLE IN THE 43RD WILLIAM JONES CUP MEN'S EVENT HELD FROM 13 TO 21 JULY 2024 IN TAIWAN

1 WHEREAS, the Philippine Senate has consistently recognized outstanding
2 Filipino athletes who delivered outstanding performances and won in prestigious
3 international competitions, thereby bringing immense pride and honor to the nation;

4 WHEREAS, the William Jones Cup, also known as the Jones Cup named after
5 Renato William Jones, one of the founding fathers and the first Secretary General of
6 the International Basketball Federation (FIBA), is an esteemed annual international
7 basketball tournament held since 1977;

8 WHEREAS, the 43rd staging of the Jones Cup men's event was held from July
9 13 to 21, 2024 in Xinzhuang Gymnasium in New Taipei City, Taiwan and was
10 participated by nine (9) teams from Australia, Malaysia, Ukraine, Japan, USA, United
11 Arab Emirates, Taiwan and the Philippines;

12 WHEREAS, Team Philippines was represented by Strong Group Athletics
13 (SGA), called Strong Group-Pilipinas, composed of Ange Kouame, Kiefer Ravena,
14 Rhenz Abando, Jordan Heading, RJ Abarrientos, Dave Ildefonso, Geo Chiu, Caelan
15 Tiongson, Allen Liwag, Tony Ynot, Jonathan Manalili, DJ Fenner, Chris McCullough
16 and Tajuan Agee, with veteran coaches Charles Tiu and Rajko Toroman;

1 WHEREAS, the Philippine team reclaimed the championship title last held in
2 2019, after successfully completing an 8-0 winning streak amid the gruelling nine-
3 day tournament;

4 WHEREAS, Strong Group-Pilipinas outplayed all its competitors, maintained an
5 undefeated record and prevailed against the participating teams from United Arab
6 Emirates (July 13 via 104-79), Australia (July 14 via 91-69), Ukraine (July 15 via 82-
7 74), Malaysia (July 17 via 89-54), USA (July 18 via 112-90), Japan (July 19 via 92-
8 79), Chinese Taipei (July 20, White via 96-70 and July 21, Blue via 83-79);

9 WHEREAS, the latest victory clinched the seventh overall title for the
10 Philippines, and secured the country's standing as a basketball powerhouse and the
11 second best-performing team in Jones Cup history, next to USA. Team Philippines
12 previously bagged the gold medal in 1981 (Northern Cement team), 1985 (San
13 Miguel team), 1998 (Philippine Centennial team), 2012 (Smart Gilas Pilipinas), 2016
14 and 2019 (both Mighty Sports team);

15 WHEREAS, Team Philippines displayed athletic excellence, unyielding spirit
16 and resilience throughout their Jones Cup campaign overcoming a depleted roster
17 due to absence of its three key players because of injuries and illness, succeeding
18 against the defending champions, and outperforming teams from host country
19 playing with homecourt advantage. Strong Group-Pilipinas showcased the
20 exceptional caliber and sportsmanship of Filipino basketball players, proving that
21 they are on par with the world's best, thereby bringing pride and honor to the
22 country and inspiration to the Filipino people;

23 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate,
24 to commend and congratulate Strong Group-Pilipinas basketball team for winning
25 the championship title in the 43rd William Jones Cup men's event held from 13 to 21
26 July 2024 in Taiwan;

27 RESOLVED, FURTHER, That a copy of this Resolution be given to each of the
28 players and coaches of Strong Group-Pilipinas basketball team.

Adopted,


JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA