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NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Third Regular Session

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## SENATE P.S. RES. NO. <u>1079</u>

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## Introduced by SENATOR FRANCIS "TOL" N. TOLENTINO

## RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING GRATITUDE AND COMMENDATION TO SENATOR JUAN EDGARDO "SONNY" ANGARA FOR HIS INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SENATE AND TO THE NATION AS A SENATOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, Senator Juan Edgardo "Sonny" Angara, a seasoned legislator for two decades, having served as the Representative of the Lone District of Aurora from 2004 to 2013 and a Senator since 2013;

WHEREAS, Senator Angara has long been a champion of delivering accessible quality education to the Filipino youth; pushing for the passage of landmark measures such as the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act, the Unified Student Financial Assistance System Act, the Student Fare Discount Act, the Free Kindergarten Law; the Ladderized Education Act, the Inclusive Education Act, the Enhanced Basic Education Act, and the Second Congressional Commission on Education (EDCOM II) Act;

WHEREAS, as the Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Finance, he has been instrumental in shaping our national development initiatives through his meticulous handling of the annual General Appropriations Act, especially during the unprecedented COVID-19 pandemic, for which he spearheaded the passage of key measures namely: the Bayanihan to Heal As One Act, Bayanihan to Recover as One Act, the COVID-19 Vaccination Program Act , and the Public Health Emergency Benefits and Allowances for Health Care Workers Act;

WHEREAS, in the same capacity, he also pursued the passage of the Marawi Siege Victims Compensation Act of 2022, to provide reparation and compensation to families affected by the armed conflict in Marawi; the New Government Procurement Act to expedite procurement, minimize corruption, and maximize the use of public funds; the Tatak Pinoy Act, in line with his long-held advocacy to bridge the public and private sectors toward building more competitive industries for Filipino goods and services, leading to higher job creation and economic growth; and the Salary

Standardization Law of 2019, which resulted in increased salaries for civil servants to address the rising costs of essential daily expenses such as food, transportation, and education;

WHEREAS, during the 17<sup>th</sup> Congress, as the the Chairperson of the Committee on Ways and Means, Senator Angara pushed for the passage of the Tax Incentives Management and Transparency Act, the Estate Tax Amnesty Act, the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act, and the Tax Reform Acceleration and Inclusion Act, among others;

WHEREAS, as the Chairperson for the Committee on Labor, Employment, and Human Resources, he led the passage of vital laws to protect and empower Filipino workers, including the Expanded PESO (Public Employment Service Office) Act, the Seafarers Protection Act, the Philippine Green Jobs Act, the JobStart Philippines Act, and the Expanded SPES (Special Program for Employment of Students) Act;

WHEREAS, Senator Angara also served as a Commissioner of the EDCOM II, where he took part in the comprehensive review of the nation's educational system. As the Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Youth, he sponsored the Sangguniang Kabataan Reform Act, to strengthen youth participation in community- and nation-building;

WHEREAS, the appointment of Senator Angara as the Secretary of the Department of Education bodes well for the future of the Filipino youth, given his track record as a legislator who has been steadfast in his efforts to improve access to quality education, which he has identified as our most important tool against poverty;

WHEREAS, for his outstanding performance as a senator and for his contributions to the Senate's accomplishments during the 16th to the 19th Congresses, Senator Angara deserves the gratitude and commendation of this august Chamber. *Now, therefore, be it* 

RESOLVED, that the Senate express its gratitude and commendation to Senator Juan Edgardo "Sonny" Angara for his invaluable contributions to the Senate and the nation as a senator of the Republic of the Philippines.

Adopted,

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FRANCIS "JOL" N. TOLENTINO