

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR RISA HONTIVEROS

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND CONGRATULATING THE OLYMPIC MEDALISTS  
CARLOS YULO, NESTHY PETECIO, AND AIRA VILLEGAS, THE TOP 4 FINISHERS EJ  
OBIENA AND BIANCA PAGDANGANAN, AND THE OTHER PHILIPPINE OLYMPIANS  
FOR DISPLAYING FILIPINO EXCELLENCE AND ATHLETICISM AT THE 2024 PARIS  
OLYMPICS.**

WHEREAS, on 4 August 2024, Filipino gymnast Carlos Yulo catapulted to and cemented his place in the pantheon of Filipino athletes when he won two gold medals in a single Olympics. He is the 1st ever Filipino and South East Asian gymnast to secure gold medal finishes at the Men’s Artistic Gymnastics at the Olympics;

WHEREAS, for sports that are not even included in collegiate leagues such as the University Athletic Association of the Philippines (UAAP) and the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), Carlos Yulo’s golden victories at the Men’s Floor and Vault in Artistic Gymnastics are made all the more significant given the small attention it receives from Filipino sport fans;

WHEREAS, on 7 August 2024, Aira Villegas secured an impressive bronze finish in the Women’s Boxing Flyweight Division in her Olympic debut. Her remarkable fight against the experienced Tokyo 2020 silver medalist Buse Cakiroglu at her maiden Olympic campaign gave the Philippines it’s 3rd medal at the 2024 Paris Olympics and made her a talent to watch out for;

WHEREAS, on 8 August 2024, Nesthy Petecio clinched a podium finish with a bronze medal in the Women’s Featherweight Division. This victory is her 2nd Olympic medal, making her the only Filipino boxer to win multiple Olympic medals and establishing herself as a formidable boxer with victories to match;

WHEREAS, Carlos Yulo and Nesthy Petecio’s triumphs at the 2024 Paris Olympics secured their place in our country’s history as being two out of only four athletes who have been able to win multiple medals for the homeland. This exclusive list also includes weightlifting legend Hidylin Diaz and swimming bronze medalist Teofilo Yldefonso;

WHEREAS, EJ Obiena who is ranked second worldwide finished 4th in the Men’s Pole Vault event, an incredible improvement from his 11<sup>th</sup> place finish at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics. As the only Asian member of the elite six-meter club<sup>1</sup>, his results in the 2024 Paris Olympics are an achievement worthy of pride and celebration;

WHEREAS, ranking 125<sup>th</sup> in the world<sup>2</sup>, Bianca Pagdanganan placed 4<sup>th</sup> in the Women’s Individual Golf Event, finishing ahead of Golf No. 1<sup>3</sup> Nelly Korda, and competing against players who are ranked among the Top 25 globally. Her near podium finish is the highest accomplishment of any

<sup>1</sup> <https://www.rappler.com/sports/pole-vault-finals-results-ej-obiena-paris-olympics-august-5-2024/>  
<sup>2</sup> <https://www.rappler.com/sports/bianca-pagdanganan-proves-mettle-historic-golf-run-paris-olympics-2024/>  
<sup>3</sup> <https://sports.inquirer.net/579769/pagdanganan-narrowly-misses-medal-ardina-helps-ph-to-impressive-finish>

Filipino golfer at the Olympics, a feat that had not been achieved prior to her performance in the current Olympics;

WHEREAS, the 22-strong Filipino contingent at the 2024 Paris Olympics composed of trailblazers and glass-ceiling breakers has now inspired a generation of young Filipino athletes to pursue Olympic dreams; has raised Filipinos' awareness of lesser known sports; has imparted a greater sense of appreciation for the feats of superhuman strength and resilience required of Olympic athletes; and has convinced every Filipino that there is a living to be made in pursuing sporting glory;

WHEREAS, Carlos Yulo's golden wins in artistic gymnastics, a sport typically considered as feminine and Nesthy Petecio's and Aira Villegas's victories at boxing, a combat sport strongly associated with men, are proof that gender stereotypes have no place in sports;

WHEREAS, Filipina excellence was on full display in Paris, with record-making feats from Nesthy Petecio (first multi-medaled Filipino boxer) and Bianca Pagdanganan (highest ranking by a Filipino golfer);

WHEREAS, the impressive medal haul and strong performance of the Philippine contingent at the 2024 Paris Olympics are made all the more remarkable despite the modest amount of government support the athletes have received and the logistical shortcoming/s they have experienced;

WHEREAS, 2024 marks the 100th year of Philippine participation at the Summer Olympics. The centennial contingent gave the country its best performance since its Olympic debut bringing home two gold medals and two bronzes, ranking 37th at the Olympics, and making us the best performing country from South East Asia;

WHEREAS, the extraordinary accomplishments of our Olympians should serve as reminder for the government to enthusiastically support and properly take care of our homegrown talents; to identify and nurture athletic hidden gems that we are yet to discover; and to continuously foster a responsible and responsive support system for our athletes through a grassroots sports development program;

NOW THEREFORE RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, TO COMMEND AND CONGRATULATE THE OLYMPIC MEDALISTS CARLOS YULO, NESTHY PETECIO, AND AIRA VILLEGAS, THE TOP 4 FINISHERS EJ OBIENA AND BIANCA PAGDANGANAN, AND THE OTHER PHILIPPINE OLYMPIANS FOR DISPLAYING FILIPINO EXCELLENCE AND ATHLETICISM AT THE 2024 PARIS OLYMPICS.

Adopted,

  
**RISA HONTIVEROS**  
Senator