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SENATE

P.S. RES. NO. 1157

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator **PIA S. CAYETANO**

RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING FILIPINO POLE VAULTER ERNEST JOHN "EJ" OBIENA FOR BRINGING PRIDE AND HONOR TO OUR COUNTRY BY PLACING 4TH IN THE MEN'S POLE VAULT FINALS AT THE 2024 PARIS OLYMPICS

WHEREAS, on 6 August 2024, Filipino pole vaulter Ernest John "EJ" Obiena cleared the 5.90 meter height in the men's pole vault finals in the 2024 Paris Olympics, landing in fourth place overall;¹

WHEREAS, Obiena, who was the first Filipino athlete who qualified for the 2024 Paris Olympics, delivered an exceptional performance and gave his all despite battling a spine injury;²

WHEREAS, the Filipino pole vaulter has demonstrated his skill and prowess in the sport, advancing his ranking in the men's Olympic pole vault event from eleventh place at the 2020 Tokyo Olympics to an impressive fourth place at the 2024 Paris Olympics;³

¹ Caramoan, M. (2024, August 6). Philippines at the Olympics: EJ Obiena finishes fourth in the men's pole vault. *ESPN*. https://www.espn.ph/olympics/story/_/id/40736660/ej-obiena-olympics-pole-vault

² Saberon-Abalayan, M. (2024, August 7). EJ Obiena battles spine injury amid fourth-place finish at Paris 2024. *Sunstar*. <https://www.sunstar.com.ph/davao/ej-obiena-battles-spine-injury-amid-fourth-place-finish-at-paris-2024>

³ Caramoan, M. (2024, August 6). Philippines at the Olympics: EJ Obiena finishes fourth in the men's pole vault. *ESPN*. https://www.espn.ph/olympics/story/_/id/40736660/ej-obiena-olympics-pole-vault

WHEREAS, Obiena ranked World No. 3 in men's pole vault and No. 1 in Asia, making him the best pole vaulter the country and Asia has ever had;⁴

WHEREAS, the Filipino pole vault star delivered back-to-back gold medals, setting a new meet record of 5.87 meters at the Czeslaw Cybulski Memorial, and achieved his season-best with a clearance of 5.97 meters as he reigned victorious in the Irena Szewinska Memorial last June 2024 in Poland;⁵

WHEREAS, the 28-year-old from Tondo has etched his name into pole vault history on numerous occasions, as he clinched silver and bronze medals at the World Championships, two gold medals at the Asian Championships, and three gold medals at the Southeast Asian Games gold;⁶

WHEREAS, last 10 July 2023, Obiena made a historical breakthrough in his athletic career as he broke the Asian, national, and his personal record by clearing a six-meter jump and winning gold in the Bergen Jump Challenge, making him the first Asian athlete and twenty-fifth person in the world to do so;⁷

WHEREAS, his historical feat includes him in an elite list of athletes who have cleared a six-meter jump, securing his spot in the exclusive "six-meter club", one of the most elusive barriers in elite athletics;⁸

WHEREAS, Obiena's drive and determination for success are evident in his numerous achievements and titles, which should undoubtedly be recognized for the

⁴ Terrado, R. (2022, July 28). Pole vaulter EJ Obiena climbs to No. 3 in world rankings. *Spin.ph*. <https://www.spin.ph/athletics/ej-obiena-climbs-to-no-3-in-rankings-after-bronze-in-world-championships-a795-20220728>

⁵ EJ Obiena snares back-to-back golden runs in Poland. (2024, June 2024). *GMA News*. <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/sports/othersports/911020/ej-obiena-snares-back-to-back-golden-runs-in-poland/story/>

⁶ Navarro, J. (2024, August 13). EJ Obiena 'not done yet,' back in training after Paris Olympics. *Inquirer*. <https://sports.inquirer.net/580033/ej-obiena-not-done-yet-back-in-training-after-paris-olympics>

⁷ Navarro, J. (2023, June 11). EJ Obiena resets Asian record with 6m breakthrough for gold in Norway. *Inquirer*. <https://sports.inquirer.net/513973/ej-obiena-re-sets-asian-record-finally-clears-6-meters-for-gold-in-norway>

⁸ *Ibid*.

pride and honor he brings not just to Philippine and Asian pole vault history, but also to the world;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Senate of the Philippines congratulates and commends Filipino pole vaulter Ernest John "EJ" Obiena for bringing pride and honor to our country by placing 4th in the men's pole vault finals at the 2024 Paris Olympics.

Adopted,

Pia S. Cayetano
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