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NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Third Regular Session

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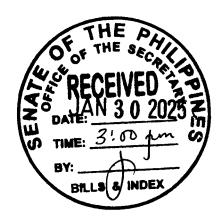
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## SENATE

P.S. Res. No. <u>1296</u>

Introduced by Senator Francis "Chiz" G. Escudero

## RESOLUTION COMMENDING AND HONORING FORMER SENATOR LUISA "LOI" P. EJERCITO ESTRADA FOR HER SERVICE AND INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE COUNTRY AND THE FILIPINO PEOPLE

WHEREAS, former Senator Luisa "Loi" P. Ejercito Estrada, affectionately called "Senadora ng Masa," served as Senator during the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Congresses;

WHEREAS, a native of Iba, Zambales, she pursued her dream of becoming a doctor, earning both her Associate in Arts and Doctor of Medicine degrees from the University of Santo Tomas;

WHEREAS, her commitment to public service began through her work in government hospitals, such as the San Lazaro Hospital and the National Institute for Mental Health, Davao General Hospital, and St. Martin de Porres Charity Hospital;

WHEREAS, as a psychiatrist, she completed her training fellowships at the Royal Park Hospital, Ballarat Mental Hospital, and Ararat Mental Hospital in Australia. Upon her return to the Philippines, she established a mental health department at the Davao General Hospital in Davao City;

WHEREAS, although a self-confessed reluctant first lady, she actively supported the underprivileged through the *Masa ang Riwasa ni Erap* (MARE) Foundation, which worked alongside President Estrada's *Erap Para sa Mahirap* Foundation. Under the leadership of her daughter Jackie, the MARE Foundation continues to provide medical and surgical missions and relief services to the underprivileged Filipinos;

WHEREAS, in 2001, she was elected to the Senate, holding the distinction of being the first and only former First Lady to serve as Senator;

WHEREAS, during her term, she served as the Chairperson of the Committee on Youth, Women and Family Relations and as Chairperson of the Committee on Health in the Commission on Appointments;

WHEREAS, she authored multiple bills and resolutions, focusing on the eradication of all forms of violence against women and youth, preventing human trafficking, and fostering the preservation and promotion of family relationships;

WHEREAS, Senator Estrada was, in many ways ahead of her time – advocating for mental health long before she entered politics, and successfully sponsoring and defending landmark pieces of legislation as a Senator. Foremost among these are R.A. No. 9208 or The Anti-Trafficking in Person's Act and R.A. No. 9262 or The Anti-Violence Against Women and Children Act, of which she was also a principal author.

WHEREAS she successfully sponsored and defended Republic Act No. 9208 or the Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act and Republic Act No. 9262 or the Anti-Violence Against Women and Their Children Act;

WHEREAS, she was instrumental in the passage of Republic Act No. 9241 or The National Health Insurance Program; Republic Act No. 9211 or the Tobacco Regulation Act; Republic Act No. 9167 or An Act Creating the Film Development Council of the Philippines; Republic Act No. 9165 or the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act; and Republic Act No. 9275 or the Philippine Clean Water Act;

WHEREAS, apart from being a legislator, she continued the "Doktora Loi" brand of public service through the conduct of medical missions all over the country;

WHEREAS, this dedication to public service is shared by Senator Estrada with her husband, Former President Joseph Ejercito Estrada and their three (3) children, who to this day, lead lives of service to the country and the Filipino masses;

WHEREAS, Senator Estrada's career demonstrates her profound dedication to public service that is neither constricted by the walls of government offices nor beckoned by publicity or fanfare. As a true servant of the people, driven by both

- passion and duty, she rose to the national stage, fulfilling her commitment to serve
- 2 the nation and to advocate for the rights and welfare of the Filipino masses: Now,
- 3 therefore, be it
- 4 Resolved by the Senate of the Philippines, To commend and honor former
- 5 Senator Luisa "Loi" P. Ejercito Estrada for her service and invaluable contributions to
- 6 the country and the Filipino people.

Adopted,

