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SENATE



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INTRODUCED BY SEN. MANNY VILLAR

RESOLUTION

**COMMENDING THE THREE FILIPINA MEMBERS OF THE “KAYA NG PINAY”
EVEREST TEAM FOR THEIR HISTORICAL FEAT OF BEING THE FIRST ASEAN
WOMEN TO REACH THE SUMMIT OF MOUNT EVEREST THROUGH THEIR
UNWAVERING COURAGE AND DETERMINATION GIVING THE COUNTRY
GREAT PRIDE**

WHEREAS, Mount Everest is the world’s tallest mountain at a towering height of 29,035 feet, standing at the border of Nepal and the Tibetan Region of the People’s Republic of China;

WHEREAS, the world’s highest peak looms as the ultimate challenge to human endurance and the pinnacle of any mountaineer’s career;

WHEREAS, the First Philippine Mount Everest Expedition last year made the outstanding feat of scaling the world’s highest peak by having the first male Filipino to reach the top of Mount Everest, with Heracleo “Leo” Oracion claiming the record climb on May 17, 2006 and followed by the other Filipino climbers;

WHEREAS, the “Kaya ng Pinay” Everest Team was organized and launched this year for Filipino women to attempt and achieve the same feat by that of their male counterparts last year;

WHEREAS, through their unwavering courage and unbending determination, three Filipina members of the Pinay Everest Team conquered the summit of the world’s tallest mountain on May 16, 2007, and thereby proving that Filipinas can also do it;

WHEREAS, Noelle Wenceslao was the first Filipina to reach the summit at 6:10 a.m., Nepal time (8:10 a.m., Manila time) despite having suffered from altitude sickness or pulmonary edema while climbing;

WHEREAS, “Naabot ng Pinay ang tuktok ng mundo!”, was the ecstatic cry of Wenceslao as she sets the record of being the first ASEAN woman to reach the “top of the world”;

WHEREAS, Carina Dayondon was the second Filipina to reach the apex at 6:20 a.m., Nepal time (8:20 a.m., Manila time), who, along with Wenceslao, actually reached the summit earlier than expected as they were supposed to reach it by 10 a.m., Manila time, thereby staying on the top for 20 minutes taking photos and admiring the view;

WHEREAS, Janet Belarmino was the third Filipina who was able to reach the peak at 9:00 a.m., Nepal time (11:00 a.m., Manila time) even if she was delayed for the climb as she had to fall in line because a lot of other people also wanted to reach the summit;

WHEREAS, through “sipag at tiyaga”, the three Pinays are also poised to set another record in Everest history by becoming the first women to have crossed the mountain from Tibet to Nepal. They climbed and summited from the North Tibetan side instead of the Southeast side in Nepal, the usual route being taken by most mountaineers. This was the route followed by Oracion and the other Filipino climbers in their ascent to Mount Everest last year;

WHEREAS, by their sheer hard work and perseverance, the three Filipinas were able to cross the mountain from Tibet to Nepal which is arguably the more dangerous route because landslides are more frequent on the Khumbu Icefall, a part of the glacier that climbers must cross to reach the summit, which, in effect, has only been done by a handful of mountaineers—all of them men;

WHEREAS, Noelle Wenceslao, Carina Dayondon and Janet Belarmino have certainly done the Filipino nation proud and have shown the world that the Filipina has the resolve to triumph;

Now, therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, to commend the three Filipina members of the “Kaya ng Pinay” Everest Team for being the first ASEAN women to reach the summit of Mount Everest through their unwavering courage and unbending determination giving great pride to the Filipino women and the country.

Adopted,


MANNY VILLAR
Senator