

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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SENATE
P. S. Resolution No. 825

RECEIVED BY: *ji*

Introduced by SENATOR LOREN LEGARDA

RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING THE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION OF THE GRADUATES OF ESCUELA TALLER DE INTRAMUROS IN THE CONSERVATION AND RESTORATION OF THE COUNTRY'S RICH CULTURAL HERITAGE

WHEREAS, Article XIV Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall conserve, promote and popularize the nation's historical and cultural heritage and resources, as well as artistic creations;

WHEREAS, the rich historical legacy of the Philippines is reflected in its architectural landscape as demonstrated in its "massive Spanish colonial churches, convents and fortifications in earthquake baroque style" which were constructed during the more than three centuries of colonization by the Spaniards;

WHEREAS, despite their role as the country's cultural markers, these heritage structures remain in constant danger due to vulnerability to natural hazards, such as earthquakes, as seen in the destruction of churches in Cebu, Bohol and other parts of the Visayas in 2013, and neglect, partly due to lack of appreciation and the high cost of maintaining them in pristine condition;

WHEREAS, as part of further cementing and strengthening bilateral ties between the Republic of the Philippines and the Kingdom of Spain, the Spanish Embassy in Manila in collaboration with Agencia Española de Cooperación Internacional para el Desarrollo (AECID), the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA), Intramuros Administration (IA), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) and the City of Manila, founded the Escuela Taller de Intramuros in 2009 to educate and train for free young men and women from impoverished background on skills such as "18th century and 19th century construction techniques: carpentry, masonry; stone, brick, wood carving; metalwork (including decorative grills), decorative and historical painting and finishing, and modern trades like plumbing and electrical installation" as part of heritage building conservation;

WHEREAS, the students of Escuela Taller de Intramuros have undergone extensive training and displayed their skills as they worked on important revival

projects for the historic quarter of Intramuros, restoration of colonial churches and bridges, and other related heritage restoration projects;

WHEREAS, the graduates of Escuela Taller de Intramuros are now considered heritage warriors cut above the rest because of their knowledge in conservation and restoration, and have become the individuals responsible for restoring heritage sites such as the facade of the Our Lady of Remedies Parish (Malate Church) and Our Lady of the Abandoned (Sta. Ana Church) in Manila; La Casa Manila and the Almacenes Reales structures in Intramuros; and a school in Malabon, to name a few;

WHEREAS, the graduates of Escuela Taller de Intramuros who have risen above poverty, domestic abuse, and a seemingly hopeless future have now become skilled individuals who not only restore and create items of value but are actually guardians of Philippine heritage;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Senate congratulate and commend the important contribution of the graduates of Escuela Taller de Intramuros in the conservation and restoration of the country's rich cultural heritage;

Adopted,


LOREN LEGARDA
Senator