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SENATE

P.S.R. No. 912



Introduced by SENATOR SONNY ANGARA

RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE TO JOIN THE COMMUNITY OF NATIONS AND PARLIAMENTS AROUND THE WORLD IN COMMEMORATING THE SEVENTH INTERNATIONAL DAY OF DEMOCRACY ON SEPTEMBER 15, 2014 WITH THE THEME, "ENGAGING YOUTH ON DEMOCRACY"

WHEREAS, in 2007, the United Nations (UN) declared September 15 of each year as the International Day of Democracy, and called for all UN member states to celebrate the day through activities which promote and raise public awareness about democracy and its interdependence with development, as well as respect for all fundamental freedoms and human rights;

WHEREAS, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, of which the Congress of the Philippines is a member, unites parliaments across the globe in commemorating the International Day of Democracy and has adopted for this year's celebration, the theme, "Engaging Youth on Democracy", which underscores that the full and active participation of young people as future leaders and decision-makers in democratic institutions and processes, is a requisite for meaningful democracy;

WHEREAS, since a quarter of world population is below the age of ten and with an estimated 1.8 billion youth, aged 10 to 24, 30.4 million of whom live in the Philippines, the security, development and prosperity of the democratic world therefore are contingent upon the ability of countries to equip the youth with the necessary knowledge and skills for them to realize their full potential;

WHEREAS, the Global Youth Wellbeing Index found that "a vast majority of the world's youth are experiencing lower levels of well-being, and even where youth are doing well, there may be an absence of an enabling environment or the lack of opportunities for them to thrive in all aspects of their lives";

WHEREAS, there are 30.4 million Filipino youth facing problems such as the lack of quality education at all levels, high unemployment rates and numerous health issues. In addition, their decreasing engagement in the democratic processis also a challenge whichdeters their capacity to effectively contribute in nation-building;

WHEREAS, it is imperative for the Senate to pursue measures that promote the Filipino youth's well-being, knowledge and skills which will redound to their enhanced participation in the nation's political, economic and social activities;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES, to express its sense in joining the community of nations and parliaments worldwide in commemorating the Seventh International Day of Democracy on September 15, 2014, with the theme, "Engaging Youth on Democracy".

Adopted,

SENATOR SONNY ANGARA