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SENATE

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RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator **PIA S. CAYETANO**

RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES ON THE
PASSING OF FILIPINA OLYMPIAN AND ASIA'S "SPRINT QUEEN," LYDIA DE
VEGA

1 **WHEREAS**, Lydia De Vega, the pride of Meycauayan City, Bulacan, a Filipino
2 sports icon, and the sprint legend of Asia,¹ passed away on 10 August 2022² at the age
3 of 57 after her recent brain surgery and four-year battle with breast cancer;³

4 **WHEREAS**, serving as a testament to De Vega's greatness were the national track
5 records she set in the eighties, which stood unchallenged for three decades;⁴

6 **WHEREAS**, De Vega was a two-time Olympian who represented the Philippines
7 in the 1984 and 1988 Olympics,⁵ and was also recognized as Asia's fastest woman and a

¹ Lydia de Vega, once Asia's fastest woman, passes away after battle with cancer. (2022 August 10). *ABS CBN*. <https://news.abs-cbn.com/sports/08/10/22/lydia-de-vega-passes-away-after-battle-with-cancer>

² Carandang, J. (2022 August 10). Lydia de Vega passes away after battle with breast cancer. *GMA News*. <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/sports/othersports/841178/lydia-de-vega-passes-away-after-battle-with-breast-cancer/story/>

³ Carandang, J. (2022 August 10). Lydia de Vega passes away after battle with breast cancer. *GMA News*. <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/sports/othersports/841178/lydia-de-vega-passes-away-after-battle-with-breast-cancer/story/>

⁴ Dioquino, D. (2022, August 30). Knott breaks decades-old Lydia de Vega record in 100m *Rappler*. <https://www.rappler.com/sports/kristina-knott-breaks-lydia-de-vega-record-100m-august-2020/>; See also (2019, December 7). Kristina Knott breaks Lydia de Vega's national record. *GMA News*. <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/sports/othersports/718302/kristina-knott-breaks-lydia-de-vega-s-national-record/story/>

⁵ Morales, L. (2022, August 11). 'Asia's fastest woman' Lydia de Vega succumbs to cancer. *PhilStar*.

1 multi-titles sprint queen after winning gold medals in the 100-meter run event in the 1982
2 and 1986 Asian Games;⁶

3 **WHEREAS**, De Vega was a nine-time Southeast Asian Games gold medalist, and
4 reigned over the sprint double in the 1983 and 1987 Asian Athletics Championships;⁷

5 **WHEREAS**, De Vega's last known public appearance was when she became one
6 of the flag bearers at the opening ceremonies of the 2019 SEA Games,⁸ which the
7 Philippines hosted, showcasing a new generation of Filipino sports talents, undoubtedly
8 inspired by the legends who came before them, including De Vega;

9 **WHEREAS**, soon after retiring from her sport in 1994,⁹ she became a coach and
10 trainer of younger track athletes,¹⁰ and eventually worked as an athletics coach in
11 Singapore before her illness forced her to stop working;¹¹

12 **WHEREAS**, De Vega made significant contributions to the development of
13 Philippine sports, and she will continue to become a long-standing image of inspiration
14 to other Filipino athletes;

<https://www.philstar.com/sports/2022/08/11/2201831/asias-fastest-woman-lydia-de-vega-succumbs-cancer>

⁶ Sprint legend Lydia de Vega dies aged 57. (2022, August 10). *Inquirer*.

<https://sports.inquirer.net/473061/filipino-sprint-legend-lydia-de-vega-dies-aged-57>

⁷ Sprint legend Lydia de Vega dies aged 57. (2022, August 10). *Inquirer*.

<https://sports.inquirer.net/473061/filipino-sprint-legend-lydia-de-vega-dies-aged-57>

⁸ Loriasa, S. (2022, July 21.) Sprint legend Lydia De Vega in 'very critical condition.' Here's where you can donate to help. *PhilStar Life*.

<https://philstarlife.com/news-and-views/548349-lydia-de-vega-cancer-critical-condition?page=2>

⁹ Morales, L. (2022, August 11). 'Asia's fastest woman' Lydia de Vega succumbs to cancer. *PhilStar*.

<https://www.philstar.com/sports/2022/08/11/2201831/asias-fastest-woman-lydia-de-vega-succumbs-cancer>

¹⁰ Lydia de Vega, once Asia's fastest woman, passes away after battle with cancer. (2022 August 10).

ABS CBN. <https://news.abs-cbn.com/sports/08/10/22/lydia-de-vega-passes-away-after-battle-with-cancer>

¹¹ Morales, L. (2022, August 11). 'Asia's fastest woman' Lydia de Vega succumbs to cancer. *PhilStar*.

<https://www.philstar.com/sports/2022/08/11/2201831/asias-fastest-woman-lydia-de-vega-succumbs-cancer>

1 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** that the Senate of the Philippines
2 expresses profound sympathy and sincere condolences on the passing of Filipina
3 Olympian and Asia's "Sprint Queen," Lydia De Vega.

Adopted,

Pia S. Cayetano
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