


7 DEC 17 2007

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

P. S. Res. No. 259

Introduced by Senators JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI and RICHARD J. GORDON

**RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL RED CROSS ON
THE OCCASION OF ITS 60th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION THIS 2007 AND
FOR ITS INVALUABLE CONTRIBUTION TO THE FILIPINO PEOPLE,
ESPECIALLY ON HUMANITARIAN SERVICES**

WHEREAS, in 1859, moved by the tragic human suffering at the Battle of Solferino in Italy between French and Austrian troops, Swiss businessman Henri Dunant attended to the wounded and dying without regard for nationality, race, religious beliefs, class or political opinions, and in so doing has founded the *Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement*;

WHEREAS, in 1899, through the initiative of Apolinario Mabini, the First Philippine Republic under the Malolos Constitution approved the Constitution of the National Association of Red Cross. However, during the American occupation, the Filipino Red Cross Society was taken over by the American National Red Cross (ANRC) by establishing its Philippine Chapter;

WHEREAS, in 1934, President Manuel L. Quezon took the initiative to establish an independent Philippine Red Cross but this has not materialized as the Commonwealth could not be a signatory to the Geneva Conventions;

WHEREAS, during the Japanese occupation, a Japanese-controlled Philippine Red Cross was formed to take care of internment camps in the country;

WHEREAS, upon the liberation of Manila, the local Red Cross officials and the ANRC undertook to reconstitute the organization and thirty-six (36) local chapters were initially set up with Dr. J. Horacio Yanzon appointed as the first Filipino Red Cross Manager;

WHEREAS, on 22 March 1947, after the Philippines signed the Treaty of Geneva and the Prisoners of War Convention, President Manuel A. Roxas, signed Republic Act 95, otherwise known as the Philippine National Red Cross (PNRC) Charter and PNRC elected its first chairperson, Mrs. Aurora A. Quezon and subsequently the PNRC was recognized by the International Commission of Red Cross;

WHEREAS, on 15 April 1947, the PNRC was inaugurated in colorful ceremonies at the Malacañang Palace and on September 17 of the same year, PNRC was admitted as a bonafide member of the League of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies;

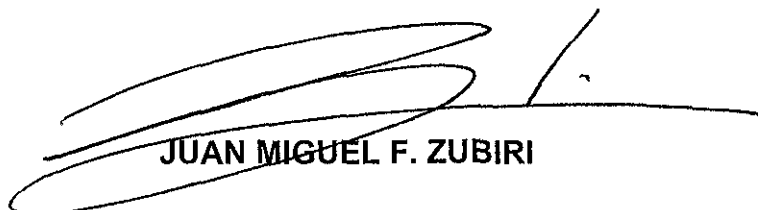
WHEREAS, the PNRRC was officially organized in 1947, it traces its roots back to the Revolutionary period in Philippine history and since its foundation, PNRRC has become the premier humanitarian organization in the country, committed to provide quality life-saving services that protect the life and dignity, especially of indigent Filipinos in vulnerable situations while embodying the principles of humanity, impartiality, neutrality, independence, voluntary service, unity and universality;

WHEREAS, the PNRRC used to be involved only in providing blood and in disaster-related activities, it has now evolved into providing a wide array of humanitarian services, such as Blood Services, Disaster Management, Safety Services, Community Health and Nursing, Social Services and the Volunteer Service;

WHEREAS, in all its sixty (60) years of existence, the PNRRC has now grown to have ninety-four (94) local chapters in all the regions of the country and has always been at the forefront providing humanitarian services such as rescue and relief operations, disaster management, first aid and medical services during countless calamities, disasters, fires, accidents and conflict situations the country and our people have experienced and in the process comforted and served millions of Filipinos and saved thousands of lives;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Senate of the Philippines commend the Philippine National Red Cross on the occasion of its 60th anniversary celebration this 2007 and for its invaluable contribution to the Filipino people, especially on humanitarian services for the past sixty years.

Adopted,



JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI



RICHARD J. GORDON