

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS )  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF STATE

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: JA

P. S. Res. No. 544

INTRODUCED BY THE HONORABLE MAR ROXAS

A RESOLUTION

COMMENDING GOVERNOR GRACE PADACA FOR EXEMPLIFYING THE TRUE SPIRIT OF GOOD GOVERNANCE, AND FOR BEING BESTOWED WITH THE RAMON MAGSAYSAY AWARD FOR GOVERNMENT SERVICE.

WHEREAS, the Ramon Magsaysay Award is bestowed upon individuals and organizations working in Asia who manifest greatness of spirit in service to the peoples of Asia and who prove to be exemplars of selfless leadership, whose lives and work make Asia truly a better place;

WHEREAS, the Ramon Magsaysay has been considered as Asia's highest honor and is regarded as the Nobel Prize of Asia;

WHEREAS, in the five decades of Ramon Magsaysay's existence, two hundred fifty-four (254) individuals and seventeen (17) organizations have been named Magsaysay awardees, including some of Asia's great humanitarians, community leaders, intellectuals, and artists;

WHEREAS, Gov. Padaca has been named as an awardee of the Ramon Magsaysay Award for Government Service, for having empowered voters in her province to reclaim their democratic right to elect leaders of their own choosing, and to contribute as full partners in their own development;

WHEREAS, Isabela Governor Grace Padaca is the only Filipino this year to receive the 2008 Ramon Magsaysay Award;

WHEREAS, as the hard-hitting "Bombo Grace", she discussed over local radio wide-ranging issues affecting the people and exposed the Isabela's intractable economic, social and environmental issues;

WHEREAS, in a Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation advertisement in the *Business World* dated August 1-2, 2008, Gov. Padaca was cited for having successfully paid off two-thirds of the province's enormous accumulated debts; widened medical coverage; undertook a much-appreciated price subsidy program for rice and corn farmers; and increased the budgets for education and reforestation upon serving as Governor;

WHEREAS, over the past four (4) years, Gov. Padaca has received a string of awards, including “Woman of Courage” from the US state department; First CEO Excel Award from the International Association of Business Communicators; “One of the Exemplary Women in Politics and Governance” award from the Barangay-Bayan Governance Consortium; Parangal Para sa Mararangal from the Krusadang Bayan Laban sa Jueteng; and the “2004 Woman of the Year” award from Kilosbayan, among others.

WHEREAS, now on her second term, Gov. Padaca stays in close touch with her constituents and remains focused on accelerating their progress.

WHEREAS, Gov. Padaca, fondly dubbed “Amazing Grace” by her constituents, deeply moved the Filipinos with accounts of her struggles brought about by her disability and courage to fight, win and serve the public with great humility and diligence which has tremendously created great impact;

WHEREAS, Gov. Padaca indeed exemplifies the true spirit of good governance with a sincere concern for the people, which all leaders must inculcate in their being.

*NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE*, to commend, as it hereby commends, Governor Grace Padaca for being awarded the 2008 Ramon Magsaysay Award for Government Service due to her invaluable and dedicated service to the nation, and due to her demonstration of the true spirit of good governance.

Adopted,

  
M A R ROXAS  
Senator