



Republic of the Philippines  
**QUEZON CITY COUNCIL**

Quezon City  
18<sup>th</sup> City Council

PR2011-327

40<sup>th</sup> Regular Session

RESOLUTION NO. SP- 5328, S-2011

**A RESOLUTION URGING HIS EXCELLENCY, BENIGNO SIMEON C. AQUINO III, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES, TO AUGMENT THE BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR THE OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS (OFWs) LEGAL ASSISTANCE FUND TO ENSURE THE PROTECTION AND WELFARE OF OFWs FACING LEGAL PROBLEMS ABROAD.**

*Introduced by Councilor RODERICK M. PAULATE.*

*Co-Introduced by Councilors Dorothy A. Delarmente, Anthony Peter D. Crisologo, Ricardo T. Belmonte, Jr., Joseph P. Juico, Alexis R. Herrera, Precious Hipolito Castelo, Alfredo D. Vargas III, Eden "Candy" A. Medina, Juliennne Alyson Rae V. Medalla, Godofredo T. Liban II, Allan Benedict S. Reyes, Eufemio C. Lagumbay, Edcel B. Lagman, Jr., Jesus Manuel C. Suntay, Jessica Castelo Daza, Raquel S. Malafigen, Vincent DG. Belmonte, and Ramilfo Z. Ludovica.*

*WHEREAS, several years ago, a Filipino domestic helper in Singapore Flor Contemplacion was hanged to death and on March 30, 2011 three (3) other Filipinos were executed through lethal injection by the Chinese authorities due to alleged drug trafficking, namely: Sally Ordinario-Villanueva, Elizabeth Batain and Ramon Credo;*

*WHEREAS, these lowly Filipinos, who were forced to work abroad due to extreme poverty and lack of job opportunities in their native land, were called Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs);*

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*WHEREAS, prior to the imposition of their final sentence, certainly they were first apprehended and later brought to court trial, but according to their fellow OFWs, as usually interviewed in radio and television, within the period from apprehension to promulgation of sentence, these OFWs were not given adequate support and protection especially in their legal battle and the common reason of the government's concerned agencies such as the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA), Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA), and Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) is the lack of fund to provide them with competent lawyer and to sustain their court litigation;*

*WHEREAS, as a consequence, OFWs who are languishing in jail or facing legal problems abroad are deprived of an extensive and appropriate legal assistance which, if done or given full attention, would probably result in their acquittal or in the commutation of their sentence from death to a lower degree. Thus, there is still hope that they can comeback to their motherland alive and be reunited with their respective longing families;*

*WHEREAS, the fate of Contemplacion, Villanueva, Batain and Credo should serve as a wake-up call for the government to be more careful and dedicated in dealing with the welfare of OFWs, especially those facing legal problems, to prevent the unfortunate and inhuman execution in the future of Filipinos we proudly call "Modern-day Heroes;*

*WHEREAS, the tourism industry of the country would be further strengthened, uplifted, and admired if, in the future, no Filipinos will be put in the news headlines set for hanging, beheading or lethal injection for alleged commission of crimes;*

*WHEREAS, regardless of the crime committed and the reasons behind, it is the duty of the government to help the Filipinos facing legal problems abroad to see to it that their rights are protected and they are given fair trial.*

**NOW, THEREFORE,**


**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED, to urge, as it does hereby urge His Excellency, Benigno Simeon C. Aquino III, President of the Republic of the Philippines, to augment the budget allocation for the Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) Legal Assistance Fund to ensure the protection and welfare of OFWs facing legal problems abroad.** Y

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*His Excellency, President Benigno Simeon C. Aquino III for his information and appropriate action.*

*ADOPTED: October 3, 2011.*


  
MA. JOSEFINA G. BELMONTE  
Vice Mayor  
Presiding Officer

*ATTESTED:*

  
Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS, III  
City Gov't. Asst. Dept. Head III

**CERTIFICATION**

*This is to certify that this Resolution was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on October 3, 2011 and was CONFIRMED on October 17, 2011.*

  
Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS, III  
City Gov't. Asst. Dept. Head III 