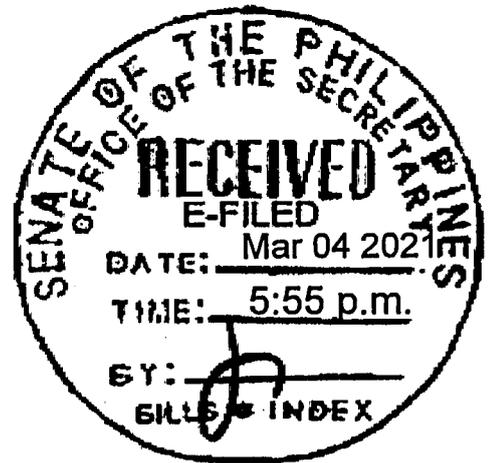


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

SENATE

P. S. RES. NO 673



Introduced by SENATOR JOEL VILLANUEVA

**RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE 2021 CELEBRATION OF
INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY ON MARCH 8**

WHEREAS, in 1975, the United Nations began celebrating March 8 as International Women's Day, and in 1977, the United Nations General Assembly adopted a resolution proclaiming a United Nations Day for Women's Rights and International Peace to be observed on any day of the year by Member States, in accordance with their historical and national traditions;

WHEREAS, in 1988, President Corazon C. Aquino proclaimed March 8 as Women's Rights and International Peace Day, and in 1990, Republic Act No. 6949 established the eighth day of March every year as a working special holiday to be known as National Women's Day;

WHEREAS, with the theme "Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world," this year's celebration of International Women's Day "celebrates the tremendous efforts by women and girls around the world in shaping a more equal future and recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic," while recognizing that "[a]cross the world women are facing increased domestic violence, unpaid care duties, unemployment and poverty," and "despite women making up a majority of front-line workers, there is disproportionate and inadequate representation of women in national and global COVID-19 policy spaces." In order to "uphold women's rights and fully leverage the potential of women's leadership in pandemic preparedness and response," this year's celebration also recognizes that "the perspectives of women and girls in all of their diversity must be integrated in the formulation and implementation of policies and programmes in all spheres and at all stages of pandemic response and recovery;"¹

¹ International Women's Day 2021 theme – "Women in leadership: Achieving an equal future in a COVID-19 world". Available at <https://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2020/11/announcer-international-womens-day-2021> (date last accessed: March 2, 2021).

WHEREAS, the Philippines has always recognized the role of women in nation-building and the need to ensure the fundamental equality before the law of women and men, as enshrined in Article II, Section 14 of the Constitution. Pursuant to this state policy, Republic Act No. 9710, or the Magna Carta for Women, tasked the Philippine Commission on Women to act as a catalyst for gender mainstreaming, as well as the authority on women's concerns and lead advocate of women's empowerment, gender equity, and gender equality;

WHEREAS, pursuant to its mandate, the Philippine Commission on Women has organized a series of activities for International Women's Day designed to highlight women's participation in battling the pandemic and discuss gender issues exacerbated by the pandemic;²

WHEREAS, with more than 53 million women in the country, almost 50% of whom form part of the workforce³ including health care workers and other front-liners, ensuring women's effective participation in policy and decision-making processes is an ongoing yet indispensable effort requiring the full support of all sectors of society. At the same time, celebrating women's unique and essential contributions in the home and in the workforce serves as a timely reminder of both the progress the Philippines has achieved, as well as the work still needed to secure the fundamental equality before the law of women and men;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES, to commemorate the role of women in nation building and celebrate women's indispensable contributions in the Filipino home and in the workforce, and in particular in the battle against the COVID-19 pandemic, we commemorate March 8, 2021 as International Women's Day 2021.

Adopted,



SENATOR JOEL VILLANUEVA

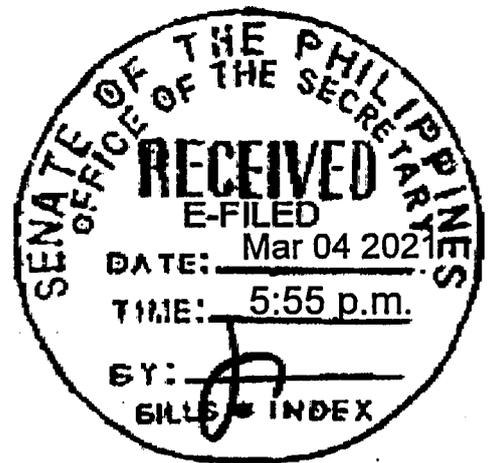
² 2021 National Women's Month. Available at <https://pcw.gov.ph/2021-national-womens-month/#:~:text=March%2023%2C%202021%3A%20FY1%2C%20may%20FOI> (date last accessed: March 2, 2021).

³ Philippine Statistics Authority Women and Men FactSheet 2020. Available at <https://psa.gov.ph/gender-stat/wmf> (date last accessed: March 2, 2021).

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Adopted,



SENATOR JOEL VILLANUEVA

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