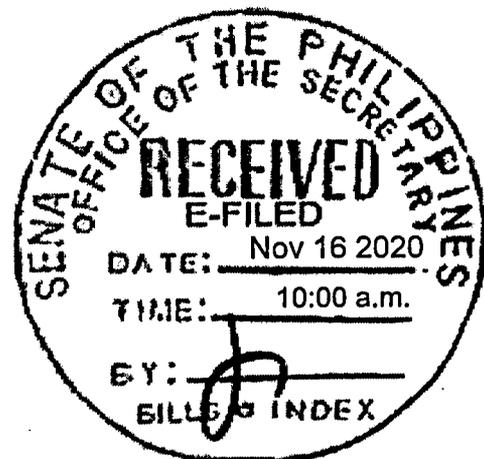


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Second Regular Session

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SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 569

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES ON THE DEATH OF VETERAN ACTRESS CLARITA VILLARBA RIVERA, POPULARLY KNOWN AS MILA DEL SOL, AND HONORING HER CONTRIBUTION IN PHILIPPINE CINEMA

1 WHEREAS, Clarita Villarba Rivera, more popularly known as Mila del Sol, is a
2 well-respected and veteran Filipino actress considered as the "Queen of the Golden
3 Age of Philippine Cinema" in the 1930s, whose works have brought entertainment,
4 hope and inspiration to generations of Filipinos;

5 WHEREAS, she passed away on November 10, 2020 from a lingering illness at
6 the age of 97;

7 WHEREAS, she started working at the age of 12, accompanied and personally
8 assisted her older sisters who entered the showbiz industry as actresses to earn for
9 their family;

10 WHEREAS, she was eventually discovered and encouraged to venture into
11 acting and to appear in the movies "*Nasaan Ka Irog*" in 1937, and "*Ang Maya*," "*Hatol*
12 *ng Mataas na Hari*" and "*Mariang Alimango*" in 1938;

13 WHEREAS, she landed her first starring role in 1939 in the musical drama "*Giliw*
14 *Ko*," which is the very first film production of the legendary LVN Pictures, whom she
15 was paired with Fernando Poe, Sr. and Ely Ramos;

16 WHEREAS, she made 12 films under the LVN Pictures film studio and became
17 part of the cast of landmark Filipino films like "*Ibong Adarna*," the first Filipino movie

1 with a color sequence in 1941, and "*Orasang Ginto*," the first post-war Filipino film in
2 1946 which depicted the Filipinos' misfortunes and tragedies during and after the war;

3 WHEREAS, she flew to the US to raise her family during the 1950s, when she
4 also pursued her education, attended high school and went to college;

5 WHEREAS, upon her return to the Philippines she continued her acting career
6 and starred in the long-running television series "*Problema Mo Na Yan*" in the 1960s
7 and appeared in the 1961 Hollywood film, "*Espionage Far East*," directed by Ted Post;

8 WHEREAS, she made more than 40 feature films and worked with some of the
9 most brilliant artists and iconic directors of her time including National Artists for Film
10 including Lamberto Avellana, Manuel Conde, Gerardo de Leon, and Eddie Romero;

11 WHEREAS, she was a recipient of Lifetime Achievement Awards given by the
12 Metro Manila Film Festival (MMFF) in 1993, and by the *Gawad Urian* in 2013 for her
13 "historic presence" during the infancy of Philippine cinema, and linking its Golden Age
14 during the pre-war and post-war eras;

15 WHEREAS, her desire to return the gains of her success to the masses who
16 supported her stardom pushed her to pioneer the maintenance service industry in the
17 country by founding the Superior Maintenance Services in 1964, which eventually
18 became one of the biggest janitorial and professional cleaning service firms today and
19 has provided jobs to thousands of Filipinos for more than five decades;

20 WHEREAS, she also set up the *Pag-asa ng Kabataan* Foundation which granted
21 scholarships to poor but deserving students and low-cost housing for the elderly;

22 WHEREAS, the House of Representatives adopted House Resolution 165 on
23 December 17, 2014 honoring her contributions in the movie industry that enriched
24 Philippine culture, and to Philippine society in general. The same resolution recognized
25 her "unwavering commitment to the improvement of the Philippine society" through
26 her businesses which employ thousands of Filipinos and through her charitable
27 foundations which provide benefits to less privileged individuals;

28 WHEREAS, her screen name "Miracle of the Sun" became a fitting description
29 on the ray of light she shone not only on the early years of Philippine cinema, but also
30 to the lives of many Filipino families who were given opportunities to change their
31 lives for the better;

1 WHEREAS, her remarkable contribution and important legacy in the shaping
2 and development of Philippine cinema as one of its oldest and major pillars deserve
3 to be recognized by the Senate;

4 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate, to
5 express its profound sympathy and sincere condolences on the death of veteran
6 actress Clarita Villarba Rivera, popularly known as Mila del Sol, and honoring her
7 contribution in Philippine cinema.

Adopted,


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.