


22 NOV 23 P1:53

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE
P.S. Resolution No. 320

Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS**

**RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING AND COMMENDING MAY RICHELL A. CESTINA-PARSONS FOR
RECEIVING THE PRESTIGIOUS GEORGE CROSS AWARD FROM THE UNITED
KINGDOM GOVERNMENT**

WHEREAS, on 08 December 2020, May Richell A. Cestina-Parsons, a Filipino-British nurse at the University Hospitals Coventry and Warwickshire NHS Trust (UHCW), gave the first dose of the Pfizer/BioNTech vaccine to then 90-year-old Margaret Keenan, making Cestina-Parsons the first person, not only in the United Kingdom (UK), but in the entire world, to administer a COVID-19 vaccine to a patient outside of a clinical trial;

WHEREAS, due to the said event, Cestina-Parsons received the prestigious George Cross Award on 12 July 2022, in behalf of the National Health Service (NHS) and its 1.5 million health care workers, from Queen Elizabeth II and Prince Charles;

WHEREAS, the George Cross Award is the highest civilian award bestowed to civilians by the Windsor Castle. The Award was given in honor of the NHS staff's "*courage, compassion, dedication and bravery despite personal dangers*". It was the third time the George Cross was given in its seventy-four (74) years of conferment;

WHEREAS, working in the health care industry, especially during the coronavirus pandemic, was very tough and challenging. Certainly, her strong Filipino values helped her get through these challenges;

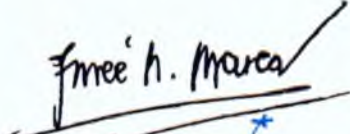
WHEREAS, the outstanding accomplishment and passionate dedication to work of Cestina-Parsons are testaments to the world-class quality of Filipino nurses all over the world. Cestina-Parsons even emphasized the importance of getting vaccines stating that, "*there is no doubt about the devastation the virus had cost in human lives and specifically*

to health workers. We need to start educating in the science of vaccines where it has historically saved millions of lives, measles, polio, tuberculosis to name a few. Where there are doubts, there will be gaps in the knowledge and this is where our responsibility lies as carers as well as educators. We need to start educating our peers the value of vaccination and the protection it offers us. We need to act as role models as well as evidence-based practitioners”;

WHEREAS, given the honor that Cestina-Parsons has brought the country by playing a key role in the roll-out of COVID-19 vaccines, she is, indeed, a pride for Filipino nurses and Filipinos around the world;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, recognizing and commending May Richell A. Cestina-Parsons for receiving the prestigious George Cross Award from the United Kingdom government.

Adopted,


IMEE R. MARCOS