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SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 128

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator **FRANCIS N. PANGILINAN**

RESOLUTION

**COMMEMORATING THE 115TH BIRTH ANNIVERSARY OF WENCESLAO Q.
VINZONS AND HONORING HIM AS THE PERPETUAL SYMBOL OF HOPE AND
YOUTHFUL LEADERSHIP IN THE STRUGGLE AGAINST POVERTY,
INEQUALITY, AND CORRUPTION**

WHEREAS, Wenceslao "Bintao" Vinzons, born on September 28, 1910, in Indan, Camarines Norte, was an academic and political prodigy who graduated valedictorian from high school and placed third in the 1933 bar examinations;

WHEREAS, Vinzons was a champion of student activism at the University of the Philippines, where he was editor-in-chief of the Philippine Collegian, and president of the student council, earning him the title, "Father of Student Activism;"

WHEREAS, at age 24, he was the youngest delegate to the 1934 Constitutional Convention, where he was a signatory to the 1935 Philippine Constitution. He was a champion of academic freedom for the state university and instrumental in making Tagalog the basis for the national language;

WHEREAS, he was elected governor of Camarines Norte at age 30 and later became a representative to the National Assembly, earning recognition as the "Outstanding Young Man in Philippine Politics" for his independence and courage;

WHEREAS, during World War II, he led a fierce guerilla resistance in the Bicol region against Japanese forces, becoming the most wanted man in the area for his effective military actions;

WHEREAS, captured on July 8, 1942, he bravely refused to collaborate or reveal the locations of other guerilla fighters, famously stating, "Nothing can make me happier than to die for my country," before being executed on July 15, 1942, along with his family;

WHEREAS, his hometown of Indan was renamed Vinzons in his honor, and several institutions, including an elementary school in Manila and the University of the Philippines' student activity center, bear his name, ensuring his legacy endures;

WHEREAS, the life of Vinzons continues to encourage generations of Filipinos, reminding the nation that true patriotism requires intellectual courage and moral conviction, qualities that are needed to address the challenges of modern governance and nation-building;

WHEREAS, in this moment when poverty and inequality are exacerbated by corruption and misuse of power, the life of Wenceslao Q. Vinzons reminds us that genuine leadership demands courage, integrity, and commitment to the people;

WHEREAS, the youth, much like Vinzons in his time, continue to take the lead in the struggle for justice, good governance, and social change, carrying the torch of hope for a future where freedom and equality are real for all Filipinos;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Senate to commemorate the 115th birth anniversary of World War II Martyr Wenceslao Q. Vinzons, a true perpetual symbol of hope, freedom, and courage in a time when poverty, inequality, and corruption challenge the very fabric of our democracy.

Adopted,



FRANCIS N. PANGILINAN
Senator