Introduction by **REPRESENTATIVE JOY MYRA S. TAMBUETING**

**A RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF THE LATE CONSTITUTIONALIST FR. JOAQUIN G. BERNAS, SJ AND EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SYMPATHIES AND SINCEREST CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OVER HIS PASSING**

WHEREAS, Fr. Joaquin G. Bernas, SJ passed away early morning of the 6th of March 2021 at the age of 88;

WHEREAS, Fr. Bernas was a Jesuit lawyer, professor, writer and a veteran constitutionalist whose life was dedicated to service, standards of excellence, and to the greater glory of God;

WHEREAS, a few years after earning his Bachelor of Laws in 1962 from the Ateneo Law School, he placed 9th in the Bar Exams held the same year. He started teaching in the same school in 1966, and has since educated generations after generations of lawyers;

WHEREAS, Fr. Bernas earned his Licentiate of Sacred Theology from Woodstock College in 1966, and his Master of Laws and Doctor of Juridical Science from New York University in 1965 and 1968, respectively;

WHEREAS, Fr. Bernas, served as the president of the Ateneo de Manila University from 1984 to 1993, and as Dean of the Ateneo Law School during 1972 to 1976 and in 2000 to 2004. Following his retirement as Dean in 2004, the position of Dean Emeritus of Ateneo Law School was conferred upon him;

WHEREAS, He was one of the framers of 1987 Constitution, a legal luminary whose legacy is that of ensuring the protection of individual rights and liberties of citizens as espoused in the 1987 Constitution’s Bill of Rights;

WHEREAS, despite his many responsibilities as an educator and legal scholar, Father Bernas remained true to his priestly consecration and regularly celebrated the Holy Eucharist and gave retreats and recollections;
WHEREAS, Fr. Bernas joined the Society of Jesus in the Philippines at 17 and later on became the Provincial during 1976 to 1982. He was also a Rector of the Jesuit Residence during 1994 to 2000;

WHEREAS, the Filipino people will always be grateful to Father Bernas for the pivotal role he played in shaping our Constitution, law, and jurisprudence;

WHEREAS, the demise of Fr. Bernas is a great loss to his friends, family, former colleagues, students, the legal community and the Filipino people as a whole.

PREMISES CONSIDERED, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, IN SESSION ASSEMBLED, to honor the life and legacy of the late constitutionalist Fr. Joaquin G. Bernas, SJ and to express profound sympathies and sincerest condolences of the House of Representatives over his passing.

RESOLVED, FURTHER, That a copy of this Resolution be furnished the bereaved family of the deceased and to the Jesuit community in the Philippines.

Adopted,

REP. JOY MYRA S. TAMBU廷ING
2nd District, Parañaque City