A RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING PROFUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE DEATH OF FORMER COMMISSION OF HUMAN RIGHTS CHAIRPERSON JOSÉ LUIS MARTIN “CHITO” GASCON

WHEREAS, on the 9th of October, the country expressed its mourning on the demise of former Commission of Human Rights (CHR) Chairperson José Luis Martin C. Gascón. ¹

WHEREAS, he served as the 7th Chairperson of the Commission of Human Rights (CHR) from 18th of June, 2015 to 9th of October, 2021.²

WHEREAS, he served as a Member of the Philippines House of Representatives for Youth from 30th of June, 1987 to 30th of June, 1992. ³

WHEREAS, he served as the youngest member of both the Constitutional Commission that drafted the 1987 Constitution and the 8th Philippine Congress, passing legislation which institutionalized youth participation in the local government (Sangguniang Kabataan) as well as a special law providing for special protection of children from all forms of abuse (Republic Act 7610).⁴

WHEREAS, his countless reform advocacies not only in the field of human rights but also in the pursuit of access to justice and the rule of law, transparency and accountability initiatives, political and electoral reforms, peace and conflict transformation, people’s participation and civic education, and state-building in the context of democratic transitions gained fellowships and recognitions which include the “Benigno S. Aquino Fellowship for Public Service given by the US State Department’s Embassy in the Philippines” (2001), first Filipino recipient of both the “Democracy and Development Fellowship at Stanford University’s Center on Democracy, Development

² https://www.genevasummit.org/?speaker=chito-gascon
⁴ https://chr.gov.ph/the-commission-en-banc/

WHEREAS, before he was appointed as chair, Gascon was a member of the Human Rights Victims Claims Board, the CHR body responsible for administering recognition and reparation programs to Martial Law victims. 6

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, to express, as it hereby expresses, its profound sympathy and sincere condolences on the death of the former Commission of Human Rights (CHR) Chairperson José Luis Martín C. Gascón.

RESOLVED, FURTHER, that a copy of this Resolution be given to the bereaved family of the late Commission of Human Rights (CHR) Chairperson José Luis Martín C. Gascón.

Adopted,

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5 https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1156101
6 https://www.genevashumanrights.org/?speaker=chito-gascon
REP. JOSE CHRISTOPHER Y. BELMONTE
Quezon City, 6th District

REP. EDCEL C. LAGMAN
Albay, 1st District

REP. JOCELYN S. LIMKAICHONG
Negros Oriental, 1st District

REP. MUJIV S. HATAMAN
Basilan, Lone District

REP. JOSEPHINE “NENE” Y. RAMIREZ – SATO
Occidental Mindoro, Lone District

REP. FRANCIS GERALD A. ABAYA
Cavite, 1st District

REP. ISAGANI S. AMATONG
Zamboanga del Norte, 3rd District
REP. EMMANUEL A. BILLONES
Capiz, 1st District

REP. GABRIEL H. BORDADO JR.
Camarines Sur, 3rd District

REP. PAUL R. DAZA
Northern Samar, 1st District

REP. ROMULO “KID” PEÑA JR.
Makati City, 1st District

REP. STELLA LUZ S. QUIMBO
Marikina City, 2nd District

REP. ALFONSO V. UMALI JR.
Oriental Mindoro, 2nd District

CYRILLE “BENG” F. ABUEG - ZALDIVAR
Palawan, 2nd District