



Republic of the Philippines  
**House of Representatives**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila



Eighteenth Congress  
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 880

---

Introduced by Representatives Alan Peter “Compañero” S. Cayetano,  
Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez and Bienvenido M. Abante, Jr.

---

**RESOLUTION**

**EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF HONORABLE MARIA TERESA AQUINO-ORETA, FORMER SENATOR AND FORMER REPRESENTATIVE OF THE LONE LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF MALABON-NAVOTAS**

**WHEREAS**, Honorable Maria Teresa Aquino-Oreta passed away on May 14, 2020 at the age of 75;

**WHEREAS**, “Tessie,” as Honorable Aquino-Oreta was dearly called by family and friends, is survived by her loving husband Antolin Oreta, Jr., and their four children, namely: Rissa, Lenlen, Karmela, and Lorenzo;

**WHEREAS**, Honorable Aquino-Oreta finished her primary school at the College of Holy Spirit in Mendiola, attended high school at Assumption College, took up Literature and History at the Assumption Convent, received her International Studies Degree in Ciudad Ducal, Avila, Spain, then earned her Master’s Degree in National Security Administration from the National Defense College of the Philippines, and became a Lieutenant Colonel (Reserved) in the Philippine Air Force;

**WHEREAS**, Honorable Aquino-Oreta was a Member of the House of Representatives from 1987 to 1998, representing the Lone Legislative District of Malabon-Navotas for three consecutive terms during the Eighth, Ninth, and Tenth Congresses, and was the first woman legislator to hold the position of Assistant Majority Floor Leader during the Eighth and Tenth Congresses;



**WHEREAS**, her distinguished career as a public servant focused on issues concerning education, women, youth, jobs and opportunities, food and health, and the development of public facilities;

**WHEREAS**, as Representative of Malabon-Navotas, she authored and co-authored several laws of local and national application including Republic Act (RA) No. 6864, entitled "*An Act Establishing a Ten-Bed Municipal Hospital in the Municipality of Malabon, Metro Manila, to be known as the Saint Lorenzo Ruiz Municipal Hospital, and Appropriating Funds Therefor;*" RA 7827, entitled "*An Act Separating the Malabon Municipal High School, Tinajeros Annex Situated in Barangay Tinajeros, from the Malabon Municipal High School Situated in Barangay Hulong-Duhad, All in the Municipality of Malabon, Metro Manila, into a Separate and Independent National High School, and Appropriating Funds Therefor;*" RA 8383, entitled "*An Act Separating the Malabon Municipal High School, Tugatog Annex, Situated in Barangay Tugatog, from the Malabon Municipal High School Situated in Barangay Hulong-Duhad, All in the Municipality of Malabon, Metro Manila, and Converting the Same into a Separate and Independent National High School to be known as the Tugatog National High School, and Appropriating Funds Therefor;*" RA 8505, also known as the "*Rape Victim Assistance and Protection Act of 1998;*" and RA 8552, also known as the "*Domestic Adoption Act of 1998;*"

**WHEREAS**, she was elected senator during the 1998 national elections and served as Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Youth, Women, and Family Relations and Senate Committee on Education, Arts and Culture during the Eleventh Congress, and was guided by her Seven-Point Agenda as she focused on legislation aimed towards the welfare of children and teachers, education, literacy, and policy research;

**WHEREAS**, during her stint in the Senate, Honorable Aquino-Oreta authored and co-authored significant legislations including RA 8749, also known as the "*Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999;*" RA 8792, also known as the "*Electronic Commerce Act of 2000;*" RA 8972, also known as the "*Solo Parents' Welfare Act of 2000;*" RA 8976, also known as the "*Philippine Food Fortification Act of 2000;*" RA 8980, also known as the "*Early Childhood Care and Development Act;*" RA 9003, also known as the "*Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000;*" RA 9036, entitled "*An Act Strengthening the Governance and Defining the Scope of the Philippine Science High School (PSHS) System, Amending for the Purpose Republic Act No. 8496;*" RA 9053, also known as the "*Philippine Landscape Architecture Act of 2000;*" RA 9105, also known as the "*Art Forgery Act of 2001;*" and RA 9155, also known as the "*Governance of Basic Education Act of 2001;*"

**WHEREAS**, as a veteran lawmaker, she was well known as a staunch advocate for the welfare of teachers and reforms in the education system and worked tirelessly to improve the employment status, working conditions, and welfare benefits of teachers, and was among those who pushed for the issuance of pay slips to public school teachers who were unfortunately left unaware about their salary deductions;

**WHEREAS**, a member of the prominent Aquino political clan of the Province of Tarlac, Tessie was the youngest sister of the late Senator Benigno "Ninoy" Aquino, Jr. and the late Senator and Representative Agapito "Butz" A. Aquino, both of whom were also outstanding public servants and legislators;

**WHEREAS**, she was also the mother of Malabon City Mayor Lenlen Oreta, with whom she shares a legacy of service and unselfish devotion towards the people of Malabon City;

**WHEREAS**, a strong-willed woman with a soft heart, she will be forever remembered as a loving wife and mother, a doting grandmother, a dear friend and colleague, and a dedicated public servant by all the people whose lives she had touched; Now, therefore, be it

**RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**, To express its profound condolences to the family of Honorable Maria Teresa Aquino-Oreta, former Senator and former Representative of the Lone Legislative District of Malabon-Navotas.

**RESOLVED, FURTHER**, That a copy of this Resolution be furnished the bereaved family of the deceased.

Adopted,



**ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO**



**BIENVENIDO M. ABANTE, JR.**



**FERDINAND MARTIN G. ROMUALDEZ**