

Republic of the Philippines  
Congress of the Philippines  
House of Representatives  
Metro Manila  
Eighteenth Congress  
First Regular Session

---

Begun and held in Metro Manila, on Monday, the twenty-second day of July, two thousand nineteen.

RESOLUTION NO. 56

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND  
CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF  
REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF  
THE HONORABLE HEHERSON T. ALVAREZ,  
FORMER SENATOR OF THE PHILIPPINES  
AND FORMER REPRESENTATIVE OF THE  
FOURTH DISTRICT OF THE PROVINCE OF ISABELA

WHEREAS, a well-known environmentalist, human rights advocate, and a dedicated public servant, the Honorable Heherson "Sonny" T. Alvarez passed away on April 20, 2020 at the age of eighty (80);

WHEREAS, the Honorable Sonny Alvarez studied Liberal Arts at the University of the Philippines and earned his Master's degree in Economics and Public Administration from

the Harvard University; he was also conferred, *honoris causa*, a Juris Doctor degree by the Stratford International University School of Engineering and Environmental Management in Wyoming, USA (2004), and a Doctorate of Environmental Science from the Mindanao State University;

WHEREAS, the Honorable Sonny Alvarez, representing the Fourth District of the Province of Isabela, was one of the youngest and outstanding delegates during the 1971 Constitutional Convention;

WHEREAS, during his two-term stint in the Senate from 1987 to 1998, the Honorable Sonny Alvarez chaired the Senate Committee on Environment for ten (10) years, and authored various environmental key legislations including Republic Act No. 7586, otherwise known as the "National Integrated Protected Areas System Act of 1992"; Republic Act No. 7611, otherwise known as the "Strategic Environmental Plan (SEP) for Palawan Act"; Republic Act No. 7638, otherwise known as the "Department of Energy Act of 1992"; and Republic Act No. 8550, otherwise known as "The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998";

WHEREAS, as a Member of the House of Representatives during the Eleventh Congress, the Honorable Sonny Alvarez principally authored laws that were integral to a comprehensive program to promote sustainable development such as Republic Act No. 8749, otherwise known as the "Philippine Clean Air Act of 1999"; Republic Act No. 9003, otherwise known as the "Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2000"; Republic Act No. 9147, otherwise known as the "Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act"; and Republic Act No. 9125, otherwise known as the "Northern Sierra Madre Natural Park (NSMNP) Act of 2001";

WHEREAS, then Representative Sonny Alvarez also authored laws that helped spur economic growth particularly Republic Act No. 9136, also known as the "Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001" and Republic Act No. 8762, also known as the "Retail Trade Liberalization Act of 2000";

WHEREAS, dubbed as "Mr. Environment", the Honorable Sonny Alvarez had received various recognitions and awards for his invaluable contribution in the field of environment such as International Public Policy Achievement Award given by the Climate Institute based in Washington D.C., USA (1996); Gusi Peace Prize Award (2007); Camilo Osias Environmental Award from the YMCA, Philippines; and Social Innovation Leadership Award conferred by CMO (Chief Marketing Officer)-Asia (2016);

WHEREAS, besides serving as the Secretary of Environment and Natural Resources and Commissioner of the Climate Change Commission, the Honorable Sonny Alvarez also served as Minister of Agrarian Reform in May 1986 to March 1987; his concern for the plight of landless farmers inspired him to later on sponsor an agrarian reform bill in the Senate, which led to the enactment of Republic Act No. 6657, otherwise known as the "Comprehensive Agrarian Reform Law of 1988";

WHEREAS, the Honorable Sonny Alvarez was a loving father to Hexilon and Herxilia and an exemplary husband to Cecile Guidote-Alvarez, founder of the Philippine Educational Theatre Association and 1972 Ramon Magsaysay Awardee for Public Service;

WHEREAS, the demise of this distinguished lawmaker, ardent environmentalist, and worthy public servant is a great loss, not only to his family, relatives, and friends but to the country as a whole; he will be remembered as a true statesman and a visionary whose legacy contributed to the development of the country: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives, To express its profound condolences to the family of the Honorable Heherson T. Alvarez, former Senator of the Philippines and former Representative of the Fourth District of the Province of Isabela.*

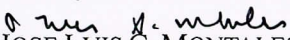
*Resolved, further,* That a copy of this Resolution be furnished the bereaved family of the deceased.

Adopted,



ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO  
*Speaker*

This Resolution was adopted by the House of Representatives on May 4, 2020.



JOSE LUIS G. MONTALES  
*Secretary General*

O