

Republic of the Philippines House of Representatives Quesan City



Eighteenth Congress First Regular Session

House	Resolution	517	

Introduced by Representative Mario Vittorio A. Mariño

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF JOHN L. GOKONGWEI, JR., FILIPINO VISIONARY AND PILLAR OF THE PHILIPPINE ECONOMY

WHEREAS, John L. Gokongwei, Jr., who built one of the biggest and most diversified conglomerates in the Philippines, passed away peacefully surrounded by his loved ones on November 9, 2019 at the Manila Doctors Hospital. He was 93.

WHEREAS, John L. Gokongwei, Jr. assumed the role of supporting his family at the early age of 13 years, after losing the family fortune upon the death of his father. Initially starting as a peddler, he switched to trading and later on manufacturing. In 1957, he started a corn milling plant producing glucose and corn starch. The company was named Universal Corn Products and later expanded into Universal Robina Corporation, one of the country's largest food and beverage companies.

WHEREAS, John L. Gokongwei, Jr. also founded the Gokongwei Group of Companies which includes JG Summit, the parent firm of

airline Cebu Pacific, real estate company Robinsons Land, Robinsons Bank, JG Petrochemicals, Global Business Power and Robinsons Retail Holding Incorporated (RRHI), the second largest retailer in the country. He was ranked 3rd in the Forbes' list of richest Filipinos in 2019.

WHEREAS, John L. Gokongwei, Jr. was not just about acquiring wealth. In 2006, he donated P 20 billion pesos or half his shares in JG Summit Holdings to the family foundation. It is considered the biggest philanthropic endowment in Philippine history. He was quoted as saying "I will devote the rest of my life to philanthropy. Life has been good to me and I want to give back the blessings I have received."

WHEREAS, he was honored not only for his vision but for his strong work ethic, pioneering ideas, passion and perseverance. He was recognized for his leadership in making the Gokongwei group a substantial contributor to national development.

WHEREAS, he is survived by his wife Elizabeth; children Robina, Lance, Lisa, Faith, Hope and Marcia; siblings and grandchildren.

WHEREAS, for his valuable contributions to business and nation-building, for his generosity as a philanthropist, and being an inspiration to all Filipinos as to how a mere "promdi" can reach the highest pinnacle of success, John L. Gokongwei will fondly be remembered: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, to express its profound condolences to the family of John L. Gokongwei, Jr.

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

Adopted

MARIO VITTORIO A. MARIÑO