

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session

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SENATE P. S. Res No. <u>270</u>

RECEIVED BY

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

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RESOLUTION

CONGRATULATING AND COMMENDING PUENTESPINA FARMS, PRODUCER OF THE MULTI-AWARDED MALAGOS CHOCOLATE FOR BEING DESIGNATED AS HEIRLOOM PRODUCER OF QUALITY CACAO BEANS BY THE HEIRLOOM CACAO PRESERVATION FUND IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE FINE CHOCOLATE INDUSTRY ASSOCIATION AND UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

WHEREAS, the award-winning Malagos Chocolate has earned another recognition after it was designated as "heirloom cacao" by the Heirloom Cacao Preservation (HCP) Fund¹;

WHEREAS, launched in 2012 in partnership with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Fine Chocolate Industry Association, the Heirloom Cacao Preservation Fund (HCP) was formed in response to the global pressures of environmental change, deforestation, and economic influences threatening the world's supply of high quality, flavorful cacao. Recognizing these endangered cacao trees are the foundation for not only delicious chocolate, but also the livelihood of many farmers and farming communities, the HCP is the first initiative to identify and map the world's finest cacao and designate growers of these endangered trees²;

¹ ABS-CBN News Website, Davao's Malagos Chocolate earns 'heirloom cacao' status, https://news.abs-cbn.com/life/01/29/19/davaos-malagos-chocolate-earns-heirloom-cacao-status

Heirloom Cacao Preservation Fund Website, About the Heirloom Cacao Preservation Fund, https://hcpcacao.org/abouthcp/

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WHEREAS, Puentespina Farm, now joins 15 other heirloom cacao farmers around the world from Bolivia, Ecuador, Hawaii, Costa Rica, Belize, Nicaragua, Vietnam, Tanzania and Madagascar³;

WHEREAS, Puentespina Farms Malagos Chocolate has garnered numerous awards and accolades in the past with multiple accolades coming from the Academy of Chocolate Awards⁴;

WHEREAS, the Puentespina Farms chocolate growing business started in 2007 when a Mars Cocoa Sustainability Team arrived from Indonesia to teach Davao farmers to grow cocoa⁵;

WHEREAS, it was only in 2012 when they decided to start making chocolates, making Malagos one of only 100 "tree to bar" chocolate producers in the world⁶;

WHEREAS, it is but fitting that the Senate commend Puentespina Farms for putting the name of the country in the map of quality cacao producers;

BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to congratulate and commend Puentespina Farms, producer of the multi-awarded Malagos Chocolate for being designated as heirloom producer of quality cacao beans by the Heirloom Cacao Preservation Fund in partnership with the Fine Chocolate Industry Association and United States Department of Agriculture.

Adopted,

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Senator

³ Supra [Citation 1]

⁴ Malagos Chocolate Website, SUMMARY OF AWARDS TO DATE, https://malagoschocolate.com/summary-intlawards-to-date/

⁵ ABS-CBN News Website, Meet Davao's Willy Wonka who put PH chocolate on the world map, https://news.abscbn.com/life/04/17/18/meet-davaos-willy-wonka-who-put-ph-chocolate-on-the-world-map ⁶ Ibid.