

H. Res. No. 447
H. Res. No. 388
H. Res. No. 419
H. Res. No. 481

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 22

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND HEARTFELT CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO THE FAMILY OF THE HONORABLE EDUARDO R. ERMITA, FORMER REPRESENTATIVE OF THE FIRST LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF BATANGAS DURING THE NINTH, TENTH, AND ELEVENTH CONGRESSES AND EXECUTIVE SECRETARY UNDER THE ADMINISTRATION OF PRESIDENT GLORIA MACAPAGAL-ARROYO

WHEREAS, on October 18, 2025, Honorable Eduardo R. Ermita passed away at the age of 90;

WHEREAS, fondly called "Ed" by his family and friends, Honorable Ermita was born on July 13, 1935 in Balayan, Batangas to parents Crisogono Ermita and Milagros Ramos;

WHEREAS, Honorable Ermita is survived by his wife, Elvira Ramos, and his children, Edwin, Ernestina, Eileen Ermita-Buhain, and Elisa Ermita-Abad, who continue to honor his legacy of public service and patriotism;

WHEREAS, Honorable Ermita laid the foundation of his distinguished career through a strong academic and military background, having completed his elementary and secondary education at the Immaculate Conception College, Balayan, Batangas in 1948 and 1952, respectively; graduated from the prestigious Philippine Military Academy (PMA), Baguio City in 1957; and pursued advanced military training abroad, including the Ranger and Airborne Courses at Fort Benning, Georgia, United States of America (USA), from 1960 to 1961; Unit Psychological Officers Course at John F. Kennedy Center in Fort Bragg, North Carolina, USA, from 1970 to 1971; and International Defense Management Course Resource Management Center at the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California, USA, from 1978 to 1979;

WHEREAS, as a committed soldier and proud alumnus of the PMA, Honorable Ermita rendered distinguished service to the nation by participating in the government's campaign against separatist insurgents in Mindanao and by representing the Philippines in the Vietnam War as a member of the Philippine Civic Action Group, exemplifying valor, patriotism, and dedication to peace and national security;

WHEREAS, through exemplary military leadership and unwavering dedication to national service, Honorable Ermita rose to prominent positions within the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), serving as Deputy Chief of Staff from 1985 to 1986 and Vice Chief of Staff from 1986 to 1988; and further distinguished himself in the Department of National Defense, where he held key roles as Undersecretary from 1988 to 1991, Acting Secretary in 2001, and Secretary from 2003 to 2004, contributing significantly to the country's defense and security policies;

WHEREAS, demonstrating legendary courage and an unwavering commitment to peace, Honorable Ermita ventured into the jungles of Basilan in 1984 to engage with the Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) in pursuit of understanding and reconciliation, and later played a pivotal role in advancing constructive negotiations between the government and the MNLF leadership, culminating in the historic 1996 Final Peace Agreement, a landmark achievement in the Bangsamoro peace process and a testament to his enduring legacy as a respected peacemaker;

WHEREAS, an esteemed and accomplished legislator for three consecutive terms, Honorable Ermita served as the Representative of the First Legislative District of Batangas during the Ninth, Tenth, and Eleventh Congresses, and chaired the House Special Committee on Peace Process and Integration, where he played a vital role in shaping national policy and advancing meaningful dialogue that contributed to the resolution of internal armed conflicts and the promotion of lasting peace across the country;

WHEREAS, during his stint in the House of Representatives, Honorable Ermita principally authored Republic Act (RA) No. 7917, entitled "An Act Amending Section 8 of Republic Act Numbered Seventy-Two Hundred and Twenty-Seven, Otherwise Known as the Bases Conversion and Development Act of 1992, Providing for the Distribution of Proceeds from the Sale of Portions of Metro Manila Military Camps, and for Other Purposes"; RA No. 8220, entitled "An Act Creating the Ranks of Chief Master Sergeant/Master Chief Petty Officer and Senior Master Sergeant/Senior Chief Petty Officer in the Enlisted Ranks of the Armed Forces of the Philippines, Appropriating Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes"; RA No. 8186, entitled "An Act Prescribing Officer Grade Distribution in the Active Force of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and Limiting the Tenure of Officers in the Grades of Colonel/Captain (PN) and General/Flag Officers in the AFP"; and RA No. 9049, entitled "An Act Granting Monthly Gratuity and Privileges to an Awardee of the Medal of Valor, Providing Funds Therefor, and for Other Purposes";

WHEREAS, drawing from his extensive experience in public service and a record of exemplary performance, Honorable Ermita served with distinction as Executive Secretary from 2004 to 2010, effectively leading the Cabinet of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and playing a key role in the coordination and implementation of national policies;

WHEREAS, in recognition of his unwavering dedication to achieving just and lasting peace in the country, Honorable Ermita was conferred the Gawad Kapayapaan Highest Distinction Award by the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Peace, Reconciliation, and Unity; the Presidential Legion of Honor (Degree of Commander) for his exemplary and distinguished service in the AFP; and the Presidential Golden Heart Award for his instrumental role in advancing peace negotiations with the MNLF, testaments to his enduring legacy as a soldier, statesman, and peacemaker;

WHEREAS, the passing of Honorable Eduardo R. Ermita marks a profound loss not only to his beloved family, relatives, and friends but also to the nation he faithfully served; and he will be remembered as a steadfast defender of freedom and democracy, whose life was defined by courage, integrity, and unwavering dedication to public service, and whose invaluable contributions to peacebuilding shall remain enshrined as a lasting legacy to future generations: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives, To express its profound sympathy and heartfelt condolences to the family of the Honorable Eduardo R. Ermita, former Representative of the First Legislative District of Batangas during the Ninth, Tenth, and Eleventh Congresses and Executive Secretary under the administration of President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

Resolved, further, That a copy of this Resolution be given to the bereaved family.

Adopted,



FAUSTINO "BOJIE" G. DY III
Speaker

This Resolution, in consolidation with House Resolutions Numbered 388, 419 and 481, was adopted by the House of Representatives on November 12, 2025.



CHELOY E. VELICARIA-GARAFIL
Secretary General

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