

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

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

RESOLUTION NO. 157

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES  
OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE  
PASSING OF MR. BEN FARRALES, THE ACKNOWLEDGED  
“DEAN OF PHILIPPINE FASHION”

WHEREAS, Mr. Ben Farrales, known as the “Dean of Philippine Fashion” for his emphasis on discipline for models and respect for creations and couture work, as well as for his strict demeanor in the workplace, passed away on March 6, 2021 at the age of 88;

WHEREAS, Mr. Farrales, fondly called by many as “Mang Ben,” was born in Cotabato City to Mr. Salvador Farrales and Ms. Paulina Samio;

WHEREAS, at a young age, Mr. Farrales worked as an apprentice in reputable department stores in Escolta and Mabini in the City of Manila, designing show windows, wrapping gifts, and assisting in the design of dresses that were made out of fabrics sold in the store;

WHEREAS, Mr. Farrales eventually joined the Philippine fashion industry with his own *atelier* in the 1950s and was one of the first Filipino designers who gave Philippine fashion a place on the international map;

WHEREAS, Mr. Farrales, having held over 200 fashion shows, both locally and internationally, succeeded in making the elegance of “malong” fashion and Muslim-inspired ternos known all over the world. He was best known for incorporating indigenous fabrics into mainstream fashion;

WHEREAS, the Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP) conferred the “Gawad CCP Para sa Sining,” the highest award given by the CCP, to Mr. Farrales in the category “Disenyong Pangmoda” (Fashion Design) for his contributions to the Philippine fashion industry;

WHEREAS, Mr. Farrales promoted Philippine arts and culture by mentoring young designers and by cofounding the Congregacion del Santisimo Nombre del Niño Jesus, which established the annual Flores de Mayo that was first held at the Manila Hotel in 1979 and continues to showcase the best Filipino fashion talents up to this day;

WHEREAS, Mr. Farrales showcased the Filipino identity on the global stage through his works in fashion runways in Canada, Los Angeles, and New York. He was also the first Filipino to ever mount a show at the prestigious Kennedy Center in Washington D.C., paving the way for future Filipino designers: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved by the House of Representatives, To express its profound sympathy and sincere condolences to the family of Mr. Ben Farrales, whose contributions to Philippine arts*

and culture, as well as fashion, specifically in taking pride in Muslim-inspired ternos and nationalistic designs wherever he found himself in the world, shall forever be etched in the annals of Philippine history.

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

Adopted,



LORD ALLAN JAY Q. VELASCO  
*Speaker*

This Resolution was adopted by the House of Representatives on March 10, 2021.



MARK LLANDIG "DONG" L. MENDOZA  
*Secretary General*

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