

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2300



Introduced by Hon. Christopher V.P. de Venecia

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND CONDOLENCES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON THE PASSING OF MARGARITA "GAITA" FORÉS, RENOWNED FILIPINO CHEF, RESTAURATEUR, AND CULINARY ADVOCATE

WHEREAS, the House of Representatives, in its duty to recognize outstanding Filipinos whose contributions have significantly enriched the nation, expresses its profound condolences on the passing of Margarita "Gaita" Forés, a trailblazing chef, restaurateur, and champion of Filipino cuisine;

WHEREAS, Margarita Forés, born in 1959, was widely celebrated for her culinary excellence, having been named Asia's Best Female Chef in 2016 by Asia's 50 Best Restaurants, a testament to her pioneering role in elevating Filipino gastronomy on the global stage;

WHEREAS, she founded and helmed several distinguished culinary establishments, including the beloved Cibo chain, Grace Park, Lusso, and Alta, each of which showcased her dedication to high-quality cuisine that blended Italian and Filipino influences;

WHEREAS, beyond her restaurants, Forés was a tireless advocate for sustainable and organic ingredients, mentoring generations of chefs and food entrepreneurs while continuously promoting Filipino flavors in international forums;

WHEREAS, her contributions extended to national and global events, most notably curating a Filipino menu at the 2015 Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) Summit Dinner, where she served dignitaries including then-United States President Barack Obama;

WHEREAS, Forés was a two-time cancer survivor who inspired many with her resilience, passion, and unwavering dedication to her craft despite personal challenges;

WHEREAS, her sudden passing on February 11, 2025, in Hong Kong at the age of 65 is an immense loss to the Philippine culinary and cultural communities, leaving behind a legacy of excellence, mentorship, and national pride;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives express its deepest sympathies and condolences to the family, loved ones, and colleagues of Margarita "Gaita" Forés;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that copies of this resolution be furnished to the bereaved family of Margarita Forés as a token of the House of Representatives' recognition of her remarkable contributions to Philippine gastronomy and culture.

Adopted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christopher V.P. De Venecia', written in a cursive style.

HON. CHRISTOPHER V.P. DE VENECIA