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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
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Senate  
Office of the Secretary

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SENATE

Senate Resolution No. 22

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Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

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RESOLUTION

**URGING PRESIDENT BENIGNO S. AQUINO III TO DECLARE THE YEAR 2013 AS THE YEAR OF OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS IN RECOGNITION OF THEIR COURAGE, DETERMINATION AND SELF-SACRIFICE FOR THE SAKE OF THEIR FAMILIES AND OF THE NATION AT LARGE**

**WHEREAS**, Article II Section 18 of the 1987 Constitution declares that the State affirms labor as a primary social economic force and that it shall protect the rights of workers and promote their welfare;

**WHEREAS**, given that the protection of the rights and promotion of the welfare and interest of Filipinos overseas is one of the three (3) pillars of Philippine Foreign Policy, the State shall continue to recognize overseas Filipinos for their critical role in the country's economic and social stability;

**WHEREAS**, the Commission on Filipinos Overseas estimates that as of December 2009, the stock of estimate of overseas Filipinos has reached 8.57 million;

**WHEREAS**, data from the Philippine Overseas Employment Agency indicate that from only 36,035 in 1975, the number of deployed overseas Filipino workers reached 1.68 million in 2011;

**WHEREAS**, the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas further adds that in 2012 the amount of remittances sent by them amounted to US\$21.39 billion which is equal to 8.5% of the country's gross domestic product;

**WHEREAS**, amidst the challenge posed by working in a different environment, our fellow Filipinos who work outside of the country continue to shine in their different fields of expertise and line of work;

**WHEREAS**, this highlights the significant contribution of OFWs in the pursuit of the Aquino administration for sustainable development and as invaluable partners for good governance;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved, to urge President Benigno S. Aquino III to declare the year 2013 as the Year of Overseas Filipino Workers in recognition of their courage, determination and self-sacrifice for the sake of their families and of the nation at large

Adopted,

  
**LOREN LEGARDA**  
Senator