

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

Eighteenth Congress
First Regular Session

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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. _____



Introduced by Hon. Dan S. Fernandez

**JOINT RESOLUTION DECLARING SEPTEMBER 12, 2019 AS THE
CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY OF PHILIPPINE CINEMA**

WHEREAS, the Article XIV, Section 15 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that “Arts and letters shall enjoy the patronage of the State”;

WHEREAS, the cinematic arts form an indispensable part of our cultural treasure as a nation;

WHEREAS, the movies have become an integral part of Filipino lives, both as an accessible source of entertainment as well as a form of creative expression and mirror of aspirations;

WHEREAS, September of this year is the official launch of one hundred (100) years of Philippine cinema, with September 12, 1919 as the day when the first Filipino film DALAGANG BUKID of Jose Nepomuceno was released in cinema;

WHEREAS, Jose Nepomuceno was the first Filipino to put up a Filipino-owned movie company, Malayan Movies, on May 15, 1917, while his film, Dalagang Bukid (starring Honorata “Atang” de la Rama and Marceliano Ilagan), was the first Filipino-made film first shown on

September 12, 1919 at the Teatro de la Comedia before moving to the Empire Theatre;

WHEREAS, since Nepomuceno's time, the country has produced almost 10,000 feature-length films and countless short films, developing a multi-billion peso industry that employs thousands of workers;

WHEREAS, Filipino films have become a forum for discussion of historical and contemporary issues, shaping in the process the Filipino identity and culture, including the dissemination of our national language; and

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to empower the Philippine movie industry as it struggles to find its proper place in the present landscape of the film industry dominated by highly-capitalized and commercialized foreign films: NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE, to declare September 12, 2019 as the Centennial Anniversary of Philippine cinema and enjoin the Film Development Council of the Philippines (FDCP) to be the lead agency for the celebration of said centennial anniversary in coordination with the National Commission for Culture and the Arts (NCCA) and other government agencies to conserve, promote and popularize Filipino films;

RESOLVED, FURTHER, that the FDCP, in coordination with the NCCA, shall facilitate and promote the commemoration of the Centennial

Anniversary of the Philippine movie industry in all sectors of society and ensure the effective information dissemination of this Joint Resolution.

Adopted,



DAN S. FERNANDEZ