

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

Fourteenth Congress
First Regular Session



HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 244

Introduced by Honorable Ronald V. Singson

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH AND SPORTS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE FAILURE OF THE FILIPINO ATHLETES TO SECURE AN ITALIAN VISA, CAUSING THE COUNTRY TO MISS ITS CHANCE TO COMPETE IN THE WORLD MASTERS IN ITALY THIS YEAR

WHEREAS, the World Masters is a competition held every two years, participated in by athletes aged 35 and older for women, and 40 and older for men;

WHEREAS, this year's World Masters was held last September 4-15, 2007 in Riccione Italy;

WHEREAS, the Philippine representatives to the said competition were Elma Muros-Posadas, who was slated to vie for the heptathlon and hurdle titles; Erlinda Lavandia, two-time defending champion in the 50-60 age bracket and former Southeast Asian Games javelin champion sprint legend Mona Solaiman and pole vaulter Emerson Obiena;

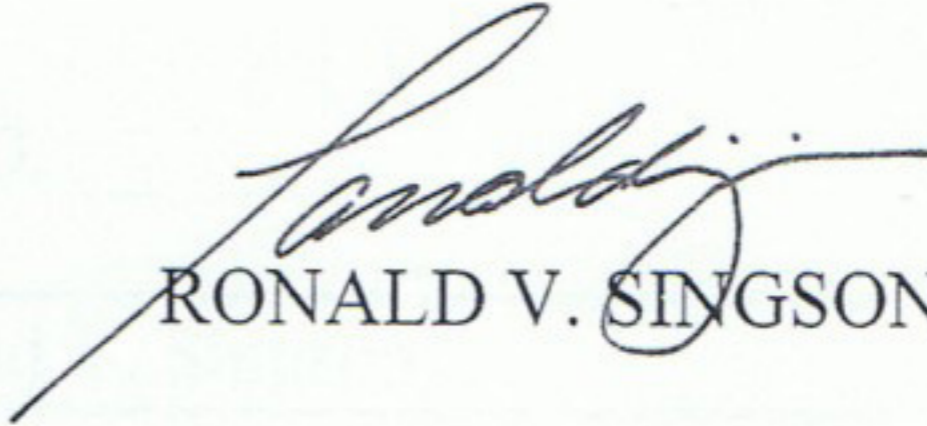
WHEREAS, the Philippine contingent applied for an Italian visa last August 21, 2007, only to be told by the Italian Embassy two days before their scheduled flight that they needed to secure first an invitation from the Italian Olympic Committee;

WHEREAS, despite efforts by the Philippine Sports Commission and the Philippine Olympic Committee to remedy the situation, the Filipino Athletes failed to secure Italian visa that deprived them of the chance to prove that Filipinos are among the best athletes in the world;

WHEREAS, these athletes spent long months to prepare physically, emotionally and psychologically for a competition they hoped would perpetuate their dominance in the field of sports and bring pride and honor to the country; Now, therefore, be it.

RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES to direct the Committee on Youth and Sports Development to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the failure of the Filipino athletes to secure an Italian visa, causing the country to miss its chance to compete the World Masters in Italy this year.

Adopted,


RONALD V. SINGSON