

[EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 82, February 22, 1999]

INSTITUTIONALIZING THE LEGACY OF THE EDSA PEOPLE POWER REVOLUTION BY CREATING AN EDSA PEOPLE POWER COMMISSION TO PERPETUATE AND PROPAGATE THE SPIRIT OF EDSA

WHEREAS, there is a need to safeguard the truth of history of the martial law years, and a need to remember the struggle for freedom and democracy during this period;

WHEREAS, our national spirit was forged through a ceaseless struggle for freedom of Filipinos who rose against colonial masters to become a nation of our own aspiration and creation, molded and formed by our national and collective history as a people, with our own culture, values, ethos, political identity and national psyche;

WHEREAS, the February 22–25, 1986 EDSA People Power Revolution which restored democratic institutions and ushered meaningful political, social, and economic reforms in the country serves as an inspiration as we continue to chart our collective course as a nation and a people;

WHEREAS, the triumph of this revolution was anchored upon people power, the ultimate demonstration of the citizen's solidarity in seeking to transform Philippine society, and to chart a new course for the country's history by linking arms and courageously asserting our democratic rights;

WHEREAS, the Filipinos astounded the world with feats of valor during the four historic days of the EDSA People Power Revolution on February 22–25, 1986 showing other captive people the way towards a peaceful political revolution of our time, thereby winning the respect and admiration of the world;

WHEREAS, there is a need to institutionalize the legacy of EDSA People Power Revolution, rooted in the same spirit that brought our people to freedom a century ago, through a dedicated organization established specifically to institute appropriate means, activities and concerted action that will serve to enshrine EDSA People Power as a continuing and permanent source of inspiration for future generations.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, JOSEPH EJERCITO ESTRADA, President of the Republic of the Philippines, by virtue of the powers vested in me by law, do hereby order the following:

SECTION 1.*Creation of the Commission.* There is hereby constituted an EDSA People Power Commission (hereinafter referred to as the "Commission") that will closely coordinate with the Spirit of EDSA Foundation and other similar private sector groups to perpetuate and propagate the spirit of the 1986 EDSA People Power Revolution.