



## SENATOR VICENTE "TITO" C. SOTTO III GRACES PICCSC'S INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION IN LOS ANGELES



*Right photo Senator Vicente "Tito" C. Sotto III delivering his speech.*

*Left photo Consul Ambrosio Brian F. Enciso III introducing Senator Sotto as the evening's keynote speaker.*

Los Angeles, 22 June 2018, Newly elected Senate President Vicente "Tito" C. Sotto III was the honored guest Speaker at the Philippine Independence Coordinating Council of Southern California (PICCSC) Independence Day Celebration held at the Hilton Hotel Los Angeles on 02 June 2018 in commemoration of the 120<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Proclamation of Philippine Independence.

Senate President Sotto in his speech that reminded the Filipino community on the history, heroes, citing the example of Lapu-Lapu, ruler of Mactan, as the first Filipino hero to resist Spanish colonization and importance leading to Philippine Independence on 12 June 1898. He also informed the passing of Senate Bill 108, honoring Lapu-Lapu as the first defender of Philippine shores to defeat a colonial invader declaring 27 April as Lapu-Lapu Day, or Adlaw ni Lapu-Lapu coinciding with the historic Battle of Mactan on 27 April 1521.

The esteemed Senator were warmly received and found endearment in the hearts of the Filipino Community attending the Independence Ball.

Prior to the 02 June event, the Senate President held a press conference at the residence of the PICCSC President Ms. Darna Umayam, wherein Senator Sotto shared his take on pressing national issues. Earlier in the day of 01 June 2018, Senator Sotto shared a lunch with Consulate General officers where-in they discussed the situation and concerns of Filipinos in the southwest United States. END.



*Photo above shows (L-R) Consul Enciso III, Vice Consul Dyan Kristine Pastrana, Madame Catherine Cruz, Senate President Sotto, Consul Rea Oreta, Vice Consul Andrea Lazaro, Vice Consul Rainier Casis and Cultural Officer Wilmina Bautista.*



*Photo at Press con seated (L-R) Tourism Director Mr. Richmond Jimenez, Madame Catherine Cruz, Senator Sotto, PICCSC President Ms. Darna Umayam, Vice Consul Dyan Kristine Pastrana. Standing (3<sup>rd</sup> from L-R) Ms. Salvacion Omega-Diaz, Consul Ambrosio Brian F. Enciso III and Cultural Officer Wilmina Bautista.*