

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines

Senate

Manila City

Fifteenth Congress

First Regular Session



RESOLUTION No. 21

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE LIVE STREAMING OF SELECTED SENATE PROCEEDINGS IN THE PLENARY AS WELL AS HEARINGS AND MEETINGS OF THE SENATE COMMITTEES, SUBJECT TO A FEASIBILITY STUDY AND PILOT TESTING, TO PROVIDE ACCURATE INFORMATION IN REAL TIME TO THE PUBLIC, AND THE RELEASE OF BUDGETARY ALLOCATION THEREFOR

WHEREAS, Article III, Section 7 of the Constitution provides that the right of the people to public information on matters of public concern, and that access to official records, and to documents and papers pertaining to official acts,

transactions, or decisions, as well as the government research data used as basis for policy development, shall be afforded the citizen, subject to such limitations as may be provided by law;

WHEREAS, in response to the above-stated Constitutional guarantee, the Senate in accordance with its power to promulgate and determine its own rules of procedure, deems it necessary and proper to authorize the introduction of technological innovation such as live streaming that will give the community the chance to have access to the public proceedings in the Senate, more importantly the Filipinos abroad who can witness the actual proceedings and debates/discussion on issues affecting their conditions and state of affairs in their employment in other countries;

WHEREAS, the on-line live streaming and audio web cast processes as sources of first-hand information by the public will allow a more dynamic link to the public at all times and will provide equal opportunity to all, particularly the students who are very interested in how the Senators work to pass bills into laws, since the gallery in the plenary hall cannot accommodate each and every person who wants to witness the Senate proceedings;

WHEREAS, already recognized in other states and/or countries such as Vermont, Arizona, New York, Colorado, Oregon, Oklahoma, Montana and Arkansas in the United States and in Canada, the live streaming and recording of the Senate proceedings will encourage greater participation from the public, thus avoiding unnecessary confusion and misinterpretation of issues and discussions raised during the plenary sessions and committee hearings/meetings;

WHEREAS, live feed from the legislature without editing or commentary will provide accurate information to the public, promote transparency and accountability of legislators in the proceedings in the Senate, and expand the opportunities for the proper dissemination of what is happening in real time during plenary sessions and committee hearings at the Senate;

WHEREAS, in order to ensure the cost effectiveness and accurate recording and live streaming of the Senate sessions and committee hearings, a feasibility study shall be conducted by the Committee on Rules on the recording and live streaming of Senate proceedings and meetings and/or hearings of the Senate committees: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate, To authorize, as it hereby authorizes, the live streaming of selected Senate proceedings in the plenary as well as hearings and meetings of the Senate committees, subject to a feasibility study and pilot testing, to provide accurate information in real time to the public, and the release of budgetary allocation therefor.

Adopted,



JUAN PONCE ENRILE

President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on September 28, 2010.



EMMA LIRIO-REYES

Secretary of the Senate

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