

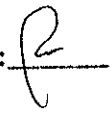
FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session



Senate
Office of the Secretary

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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

P.S. RES NO. **282**

Introduced by **SENATOR PIA S. CAYETANO**

A RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE ALARMING INCREASE IN CASES OF FILIPINOS, ESPECIALLY WOMEN, WHO ARE BEING USED AS DRUG MULES BY INTERNATIONAL DRUG SYNDICATES

Whereas, drug syndicates have resorted to the recruitment of individuals for work overseas as a means of using these individuals as drug mules to transport drugs all over the world;

Whereas, the Department of Foreign Affairs is alarmed by the growing number of drug cases wherein Overseas Filipino Workers are being used as drug mules;

Whereas, women comprise 62% of Filipinos facing charges for drug-related cases handled by the Department of Foreign Affairs;

Whereas, the Blas F. Ople Policy Center, a non-profit organization that gives assistance to distressed Overseas Filipino Workers, revealed that members of drug syndicates recruit unsuspecting Filipino women into drug trafficking by establishing romantic relationships with their prospective victims via internet chat rooms;

Whereas, the Center also reported that some women were promised employment abroad, but forced into drug trafficking once they reached their country of destination;

Whereas, even pregnant women are being used by drug syndicates as drug couriers because the Bureau of Immigration is said to be lenient when it comes to the inspection of pregnant women;

Whereas, despite the creation of the Drug Couriers Task Force, which is composed of the Department of Foreign Affairs, Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency and other institutions, cases for drug trafficking continue to rise;

Whereas, the increasing number of Filipinos victimized by drug syndicates likewise reflects the inadequacies of existing laws, programs and policies supposed to protect and advance the rights of our workers and protect Filipinos from any form of abuse;

Whereas, the State needs to take immediate action to prevent more Filipinos, especially the women, from becoming victims of international drug syndicates here and abroad;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to direct the appropriate Senate Committees to review, in aid of legislation, the laws, programs and policies in view of the increase in the number of Filipinos, especially women, who are being used as drug mules by international drug syndicates.

Adopted,


PIA S. CAYETANO
Senator