

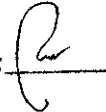
FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session



Senate
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SENATE

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P.S. Resolution No. 285

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS AND TRADE AND COMMERCE TO CONDUCT A STUDY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE PRESENT STATE OF THE LOCAL STEEL INDUSTRY, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF PROMOTING GROWTH AND GENERATING EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES IN THE SECTOR

Whereas, paragraphs two and three of Section 1 Article XII of the Constitution provides:

“The State shall promote industrialization and full employment based on sound agricultural development and agrarian reform, through industries that make full and efficient use of human and natural resources, and which are competitive in both domestic and foreign markets. However, the State shall protect Filipino enterprises against unfair foreign competition and trade practices.

In the pursuit of these goals, all sectors of the economy and all regions of the country shall be given optimum opportunity to develop. Private enterprises, including corporations, cooperatives, and similar collective organizations, shall be encouraged to broaden the base of their ownership.”;

Whereas, according to records of the Mines and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the country's iron reserve is placed at 493.5 million tons which is more than enough to supply the iron ores and concentrates needed by the local steel industry to expand;

Whereas, iron deposits are found all over the country, the extraction and processing of which will create opportunities and generate employment, the development of this sector will make the iron-and-steel industry as a major backbone of the country's industrialization;

Whereas, the steel industry is under threat because of inefficiency in the supply links and the absence of protection from foreign imports of steel products;


Whereas, the local steel manufacturers have highlighted the need for coherent interlinkages in the sectors of the steel industry in order to improve production and encourage growth in trade;

Whereas, the 0% tariffs currently applied to imported raw steel sheets has removed the protection needed by the local steel industry against the unfair trade practices of foreign suppliers and importers of steel products;

Whereas, there is a need to conduct an assessment and review the current policies relating to the steel industry in order to aid the local steel manufacturers in competing with imports and encourage growth;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines to direct the Senate Committees on Economic Affairs and Trade and Commerce to conduct a study, in aid of legislation, on the present state of the local steel industry, with the end in view of promoting growth and generating employment opportunities in the sector.

Adopted,



MANNY VILLAR