

"10 DEC 14 P5:00

## FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

## SENATE

ir BY:-

P.S. Resolution No. 317

## INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

**RESOLUTION RECOMMENDING TO THE DEPARTMENT OF TOURISM, THE RESTORATION, REHABILITATION AND RE-GREENING OF ALL MAJOR PARKS IN THE COUNTRY ENCOURAGING FOR THE PURPOSE PUBLIC-PRIVATE SECTOR PARTNERSHIP THROUGH THE INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF "ADOPT-A-PARK" PROGRAM** 

Whereas, Sections 16 and 20, Article II of the 1987 Constitution states that:

"Section 16. The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.

Section 20. The State recognizes the indispensable role of the private sector, encourages private enterprise, and provides incentives to needed investments.";

Whereas, the Philippines can attract more tourist and can encourage healthy and ecologically friendly activities by investing in parks which are found all over the country;

Whereas, this can be one of the key strategies of the Department of Tourism in developing new and enhancing existing products in order to foster growth in tourism;

Whereas, main attractions of majority of Philippine parks are the playgrounds, statues of historic and prehistoric characters, animals and replicas of natural wonders as well as the abundance of species of trees and plants;

Whereas, adopting a design for an Adopt-a-Park program to improve and enhance parks through community involvement and citizen partnerships by seeking the participation of neighborhood organizations, civic and church groups, scout troops, businesses, schools, families and individuals in taking an active role in the beautification of the community;

Whereas, the Adopt-a-Park program is based on the premise that citizens make a difference in ensuring that every neighborhood park, children's playground, beach or natural area is clean, safe and well maintained;

Whereas, by adopting a park in the neighborhood, people and communities can make a difference in the way parks look and operate;

Whereas, parks, when improved can dramatically contribute to the boom in property values leading to an increase in revenues for the government and providing for an opportunity for investment by the private sector;

Whereas, a tax incentive program can also be utilized through tax deductions for the contributions made for the restoration, rehabilitation and re-greening of parks in order to encourage private sector participation in this endeavor;

Whereas, taxpayers should be given the opportunity to save money for serving the public interest in preserving green areas for future generations;

**NOW, WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines to recommend to the Department of Tourism, Department of Environment and Natural Resources and other government agencies the restoration, rehabilitation and re-greening of all major parks in the country and encouraging private sector participation through donations, the institutionalization of "Adopt-a-Park" program and other incentives.

Adopted,

MANNY VILLAR