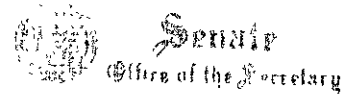
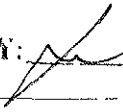


FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



11 JAN 24 P 4:10

SENATE
P. S. R. No. 392

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED THEFT OF FLOOD WARNING EQUIPMENT IN THE AGNO AND TARLAC WEATHER STATIONS

WHEREAS, various news agencies reported last 11 January 2011 that according to local meteorologists, the theft of expensive flood warning equipment will put a million Filipinos at more risk from deadly deluges;

WHEREAS, the reports claimed that the flood warning equipment were stolen most likely by scavengers for scrap metal;

WHEREAS, it was reported that state weather service has already sought the help of police and local governments to help guard the rest of the flood sensors from being allegedly scavenged for scrap metal and sold by locals;

WHEREAS, because of the thefts which occurred since December 2010, people in the vicinity of the Agno River and Tarlac cannot receive advance warnings of flashfloods;

WHEREAS, an estimated one million people will be affected by the flash floods in that area of 30 towns that can easily go underwater after heavy rains;

WHEREAS, officials said that the people who sold the sensors for scrap do not know how important those equipments were in the operation of flood monitoring stations;


WHEREAS, officials also said that these systems were worth millions of dollars, and that repairing them would cost the government thousands of dollars, compared to the few hundreds of pesos the scavengers would get from selling the equipment in the junkyard;

WHEREAS, considering the dire consequences brought by flash floods, Congress should formulate legislation that would protect these equipment from theft by putting more stringent measures in their protecting the vicinity where such are installed;

WHEREAS, Congress should likewise put more teeth in the law with regard to those found guilty of stealing the equipment and those buying the stolen items;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved as it is hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the reported theft of flood warning equipment in the Agno and Tarlac weather stations.

Adopted,

ps

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

/ptmt