

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

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SENATE  
Resolution No.

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Introduced by Senators Richard J. Gordon and Edgardo J. Angara

**RESOLUTION CALLING A CAUCUS OF ALL SENATORS TO IDENTIFY STRATEGIC MEASURES AND PRIORITY LEGISLATION TO EFFICIENTLY AND EFFECTIVELY SOLVE THE MOST URGENT PROBLEMS OF OUR NATION**

WHEREAS, in the privilege speech of Senator Juan Ponce Enrile on 23 August 2004 entitled *Bayan ang Bida*, he reiterated that our country is like a ticking bomb that needs to be diffused given the widespread poverty stalking our land, the burgeoning unemployment affecting our people, and the dire condition of law and order in our country, including our weak and unhealthy economy, our huge borrowings and alarming fiscal deficit, and the rising power rates, water charges, fuel costs, transportation fares, and escalating prices of basic and essential commodities;

WHEREAS, Senator Enrile urged the Senate to be the fulcrum of unity for our nation to respond with dispatch to the urgent demands of our people;

WHEREAS, Senator Enrile also suggested to explore new roads to progress and to adopt unorthodox solutions to our national ills;

WHEREAS, Senator Enrile expressed his preparedness and readiness to cooperate and help and work with the majority;

WHEREAS, in the interpellation of Senator Enrile by the undersigned Senators from the Senate majority and the Senate minority, respectively, Senator Enrile's offer of cooperation was pleasantly accepted;

WHEREAS, in the absence of a united legislative agenda by the Senate containing our basic principles, thrusts and priority legislation, the undersigned Senators further proposed a truly unconventional approach in solving our country's problems by setting aside partisan political parties and working collectively as one Senate for the common good of our people;

WHEREAS, in a report of August 2004 by the UP School of Economics entitled *The deepening crisis: the real score on deficits and the public debt*, it is acknowledged that the national government's total debt stood at 3.36 trillion pesos as of the end of 2003, as large as 78 percent of the GDP in 2003, and continues to escalate;



WHEREAS, to avoid an economic collapse in the next two years, the UP School of Economics expressed the need for an unprecedented cooperation and open-mindedness among the country's political elite;

WHEREAS, in view of the foregoing reasons, there is indeed a pressing need for unity and cooperation in the Senate now more than ever to address the momentous tasks that lie before us;

WHEREAS, to secure our people's well-being, we, as statesmen, patriots and public servants, must work together for the ultimate good which is the good of our people and the ultimate interest which is the interest of our nation; and

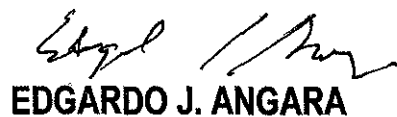
WHEREAS, motivated primarily by our will to serve our people: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, as it is hereby resolved, by the Senate of the Philippines, to call a caucus of all Senators to identify strategic measures and priority legislation to efficiently and effectively solve the most urgent problems of our nation.

Approved,



**RICHARD J. GORDON**



**EDGARDO J. ANGARA**