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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1001

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 NEED TO LIMIT OR TOTALLY BAN THE PROLIFERATION OF BANNERS, STREAMERS, BILLBOARDS, POSTERS, TARPAULINS, AND FLAGS BEARING CONGRATULATORY REMARKS AND WELL-WISHES ADVERTISING THE NAMES AND PICTURES OF POLITICIANS

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 27 states: The State shall maintain honesty and integrity in the public service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption;

WHEREAS, various complaints have been made on the proliferation of congratulatory messages and well-wishes bearing the names and pictures of government officials, particularly those serving in local government units;

WHEREAS, these congratulatory messages and well-wishes are placed on streamers and banners, which become eyesores that distract traffic and add to the visual pollution on the streets;

WHEREAS, these government officials who plaster their faces on these banners, streamers, and the like are allegedly those who plan to run again for office in the upcoming 2010 elections;

WHEREAS, it is highly questionable where these government officials get their funding for these streamers and banners; most likely they are using government funds for the purchase of these materials;

WHEREAS, congratulatory messages and well-wishes may create a sense of community and solidarity within; however, excessive displays of such are uncalled for and could border on the illegal use of government funds for premature campaigning since these have sprouted by dozens just this year when the elections are nearing;

WHEREAS, most of these banners, streamers, and the like, are allegedly intended to advertise and induce name recall of politicians who intend to run again for office;

WHEREAS, legislation should regulate the use of banners, streamers, billboards, posters, and the like that convey congratulatory messages or well-wishes;

WHEREAS, it is also imperative that the government limit the use of state funds for banners, streamers, billboards, posters, and the like that convey congratulatory messages or well-wishes;

WHEREAS, congratulatory messages and well-wishes could be conveyed in simply one streamer or banner placed in a conspicuous area near the municipal hall, and

instead of publicizing the name and face of the politician, which is usually larger than the font size of the message, the congratulatory message or well-wishes should bear the name of the city or municipality government that has donated such;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the proper Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation, on the reported need to limit or totally ban the proliferation of banners, streamers, billboards, posters, tarpaulins, and flags bearing congratulatory remarks and well-wishes advertising the names and pictures of politicians.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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