

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

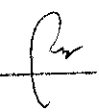


Senate
Office of the Secretary

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SENATE

P. S. Res. No. 418

RECEIVED BY: 

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

RESOLUTION

URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC ORDER AND ILLEGAL DRUGS AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE PRESENCE OF INTERNATIONAL DRUG SYNDICATES AND BIG-TIME CRIMINAL ORGANIZATIONS THAT CONTINUE TO OPERATE IN THE COUNTRY IN THE AREAS OF ILLEGAL DRUGS PRODUCTION, TRAFFICKING AND CONSUMPTION, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF IMPLEMENTING STRINGENT ENFORCEMENT, ARREST AND CONVICTION EFFORTS

Whereas, the Philippines is signatory to several major treaties and protocols on drugs, namely: 1961 UN Single Convention on Narcotics Drugs, 1971 UN Convention on Psychotropic Substances, 1972 Protocol Amending the Single Convention and 1988 UN Drug Convention;

Whereas, the country is also party to the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and its three protocols, and the UN Convention against Corruption;

Whereas, organized criminal activities can be categorized into drug trafficking, kidnap-for-ransom, robbery/hold-up and carjacking;¹

Whereas, organized crime is a multibillion-peso industry in the Philippines, its earnings, by conservative estimates is equivalent to 10 to 20 percent of the Philippine gross domestic product, or anywhere from P300 to P600 billion every year;²

Whereas, the value of illegal drugs trafficked in the Philippines was placed at \$6.4 billion to \$8.4 billion annually, with the top three areas most affected as Cebu, northern Mindanao and Metro Manila;³

Whereas, the Philippines ranked No. 1 in Southeast Asia as the country with the most number of drug users according to the 2008 World Drug report released by the United Nations Office on drugs and crimes, per 2004 data submitted by the Dangerous Drugs Board (DDB) which stated that six percent of the country's total population used drugs or approximately 6.7 million;

Whereas, Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) records show that of the 12,381 drug cases filed by police in 2008, only 35 resulted in convictions;⁴

¹ Philippine Center on Transnational Crime, *Organized Crime in the Philippines*, Jan 2003, Tokyo, Japan

² Philippine Center for Investigative Journalism, *Public Eye, Criminals Inc*, Jan-Mar 2003 issue

³ US: Drug money may affect RP elections Philippines' narcotics trade placed at \$8.4B, Cynthia Balana, *Philippine Daily Inquirer*, March 3 2010

⁴ Asia Times Online, *The Philippines as a narco-state*, Jan 17, 2009

Whereas, roughly 700 suspected Filipino couriers were apprehended in various countries as of January 2011, about 63 percent of whom are women;


Whereas, according to the 2011 International Narcotics Control Strategy Report, human and drug trafficking, corruption and investment scams have remained the principal sources of criminal activities in the Philippines;⁵

Whereas, there is need to review and tighten the security systems in place at our air and sea ports to safeguard Filipinos against known drug traffickers that depart from and arrive in the country;

Whereas, the government and its implementing agencies should launch an aggressive campaign to eliminate the threat posed by big drug syndicates: Now therefore be it

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to urge the Senate Committees on Public Order and Illegal Drugs and other appropriate committees, to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the presence of international drug syndicates and big-time criminal organizations that continue to operate in the country in the areas of illegal drugs production, trafficking and consumption, with the end in view of implementing stringent enforcement, arrest and conviction efforts.

Adopted,


MANNY VILLAR
Senator

⁵ The Philippine Star, Drug trafficking, corruption prime sources of criminal activities in Phl-report, Mar 5 2011