

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



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SENATE
P.S.R. No. 423.

RECEIVED BY: [Signature]

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED ABUSES MADE BY
THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT AND
DESIGN CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 11, Section 1 provides, "Public office is a public trust. Public officers and employees must at all times be accountable to the people, serve them with utmost responsibility, integrity, loyalty, and efficiency, act with patriotism and justice, and lead modest lives";

WHEREAS, last 14 February 2011, various news reports stated that Ms. Myrna M. Sunico, the Executive Director of the Product Development and Design Center of the Philippines (PDDCP), an attached agency of the Department of Trade and Industry, was engaged in abusive practices towards her subordinates;

WHEREAS, employees of the PDDCP reportedly questioned Sunico's tenure following Executive Order 2 signed by President Aquino in July, which allowed non-career officials to remain in office until 31 October until a replacement had been designated;

WHEREAS, the employees alleged that Sunico was not qualified to head the agency to begin with, because she is not a Career Executive Service Officer;

WHEREAS, it was reported that Dir. Sunico habitually engaged in abusive and insulting conduct towards the employees of the PDDCP, she was also alleged to have disregarded protocol with regard to information dissemination;

WHEREAS, the reports also claimed that she impaired the operations of the government and the agency by refusing to accept projects that are submitted by other government agencies to her office and by engaging the services of freelance designers despite having in-house designers;

WHEREAS, it was reported that the outsourcing of project designers have proven to be more costly to the government; it was alleged that the agency's portal, which was created for P60,000, would have cost only P24,000 if created in-house;

WHEREAS, the reports also stated that she arbitrarily transferred employees from one area to another, placed others on floating status, and revoked designations without any basis;

WHEREAS, a majority of the employees of PDDCP signed a petition asking the Department of Trade and Industry to revoke the appointment of Dir. Sunico;

WHEREAS, it was reported that the employees of PDDCP lodged a complaint against Dir. Sunico at the Trade Department and the Civil Service Commission in May, but nothing came out of it;

WHEREAS, due to the abusive practices of some appointed officials, the legislature should create measures to address flawed appointments;

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 abuses made by the executive director of the Product Development and Design Center of the Philippines.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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