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S E N A T E

P. S. Res. No. 1034

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

RESOLUTION
URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE INFLUX OF CHEAP VEGETABLES FROM CHINA AND OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE LOCAL MARKET WITH THE END IN VIEW OF INSULATING OUR SMALL-SCALE FARMERS, ENHANCING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTIVITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE, AND PROVIDING INCENTIVES TO LOCAL VEGETABLE GROWERS AND AGRI- ENTREPRENEURS

Whereas, China is currently the biggest vegetable producer in the world, accounting for 36 percent of global vegetable production with a total value of US$ 73.85 billion;

Whereas, only one percent of China's total vegetable production is being exported;

Whereas, an agricultural official admitted that 50 percent of vegetables being sold in Southern Mindanao alone came from China;

Whereas, the livelihood of Filipino farmers are greatly being threatened by the entry of imported vegetables, particularly garlic and onion from China and India;

Whereas, farmers express more worry as the country is poised to implement the free-tariff policy on imported vegetables starting next year as agreed in the World Trade Organization-General Agreement on Tariff and Trades (WTO-GATT);

Whereas, over-supply of imported/smuggled cheap agricultural products destroys local economies because our own vegetable farmers and suppliers find it difficult to compete: Now therefore be it

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to urge the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Food and other appropriate committees, to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the influx of cheap vegetables from China and other countries in the local market with the end in view of insulating our small-scale farmers, enhancing agricultural productivity and infrastructure, and providing incentives to local vegetable growers and agri- entrepreneurs.

Adopted,

MANNY VILLAR
Senator