FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session



## P. S. Res. No. <u>459</u>

SENATE

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## Introduced by Senator JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

## RESOLUTION

## EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE URGING THE PRESIDENT TO EXERCISE PRUDENCE IN THE DISCHARGE OF ITS APPOINTING POWERS AND APPOINT ONLY INDIVIDUALS OF PROVEN COMPETENCE, UNSULLIED INTEGRITY AND UNQUESTIONABLE HONESTY TO THE VARIOUS POSITIONS IN THE EXECUTIVE AND JUDICIAL BRANCHES AND CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICES

WHEREAS, Congress, as a co-equal branch of Government, adheres to and fully respects the Constitutionally mandated separation of powers among the branches of Government and recognizes the appointing authority of the President vested in him by the Constitution and existing laws;

WHEREAS, the President of the Republic of the Philippines has launched the "Daang Matuwid" as the underlying thrust of this Administration in governance and the delivery of public service and serves as its battle-cry in stomping out corruption;

WHEREAS, the Senate fully supports the President in instituting reforms in governance, delivery of basic services, and stomping out corruption through the "Daang Matuwid" as a strategy or program;

WHEREAS, the President has the authority to fill vacancies in the positions of Chief Justice and Associate Justice in the Supreme Court, Justice in the Court of Appeals, Justice in the Court of Tax Appeals, Justice in the Sandiganbayan, Chairmen and Commissioners of the various Constitutional Commissions, Office of the Ombudsman, Commission on Human Rights, the Monetary Board and the National Police Commission, the Secretary, Undersecretary and Assistant Secretary of the Departments and the Foreign Service with persons who possess the necessary qualifications and none of the temporary or permanent disqualifications to hold public office;

WHEREAS, as a guide post, the President should opt to refrain from appointing individuals who have pending cases before the Courts particularly those charged with graft and corruption cases;

WHEREAS, in order to prevent the wasteful utilization of government resources the Senate appeals to the President to obtain and use the investigative reports

produced and provided for by various government agencies particularly the Department of Justice and the Office of the Ombudsman which include cases filed against the prospective appointees;

WHEREAS, in order to guarantee the faithful adherence to the "Daang Matuwid" as this Administration's thrust, the Senate appeals to the President that he refrain from appointing individuals charged with offenses punishable under the Revised Penal Code and/or Special Penal Laws, particularly those involving moral turpitude and/or graft and corruption;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** as it is hereby resolved by the Senate to urge the President to exercise prudence in the discharge of his appointing powers and appoint only individuals of proven competence, unsullied integrity and unquestionable honesty to the various positions in the Executive and Judicial branches and Constitutional Offices.

Adopted,

JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI