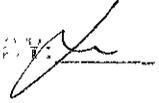


FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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SENATE
P.S. RES-NO. 502

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Manny B. Villar

RESOLUTION

URGING THE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD AND SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATUS OF THE DAIRY INDUSTRY IN THE COUNTRY AND THE EVALUATION OF THE MILK FEEDING PROGRAM OF THE GOVERNMENT WITH THE END IN VIEW OF IMPROVING THE LOCAL DAIRY PRODUCTION TO MEET THE LOCAL DEMAND AND AT THE SAME TIME PROVIDING ADDITIONAL INCOME TO FILIPINO DAIRY FARMERS AND ADDRESSING THE WIDESPREAD MALNOURISHMENT OF CHILDREN IN THE COUNTRY

Whereas, Article XIII Section 5 of the Constitution states that “[t]he State shall recognize the right of farmers, farmworkers, and landowners, as well as cooperatives, and other independent farmers' organizations to participate in the planning, organization, and management of the program, and shall provide support to agriculture through appropriate technology and research, and adequate financial, production, marketing, and other support services;”

Whereas, also in 1987 Constitution, Article XII, Section 1, provides that one of the goals of the national economy is the sustained increase in the amount of goods and services produced by the nation for the benefit of the people; and an expanding productivity as the key to raising the quality of life for all, especially the underprivileged;

Whereas, Republic Act 7884 otherwise known as the National Dairy Development Act was enacted in 20 February 1995 which reiterates the Philippines’ support to dairy as a national policy;

Whereas, data from the Philippine National Dairy Authority (NDA) for the year 2007, shows that in terms of volume, domestic milk production is at 13,320 metric tons which is valued at P387.11 million;

Whereas, in the same year, NDA estimated total domestic dairy requirements to be about 2.635 MMT, growing at about 2 percent yearly;

Whereas, local production vis a vis consumption show that local production comprise of only a measly 1% of the overall domestic requirement;

Whereas, dairy products are the country’s second largest agricultural import after wheat which is estimated to be around \$475 million;

Whereas, demand of fresh milk has been growing in the country with coffee shops, households and schools through the government's milk feeding program, as stable consumers thereof;

Whereas, there is great potential in the enhancement of dairy business in the country as this not only provides a steady flow of income to local dairy farmers but also complements the milk feeding program of the government, particularly that of the Department of Agriculture-National Dairy Authority, which addresses the problem of malnutrition in Filipino children;

Whereas, sustained milk intake among children is believed to improve the nutritional status of malnourished student-beneficiaries;

Whereas, local milk production alone, according to NDA, is already absorbed in the local communities where it is produced while the other half goes to school and community milk feeding programs co-funded by local government units;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to urge the Committees on Agriculture and Food and Science and Technology to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation, on the status of the dairy industry in the country and the evaluation of the milk feeding program of the government with the end in view of improving the local dairy production to meet the local demand and at the same time providing additional income to Filipino dairy farmers and addressing the widespread malnourishment of children in the country.

Adopted,


Manny Villar