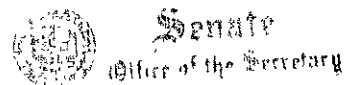
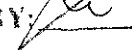


FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



11 JUN -7 P7:09

S. Ct. Res. No. 6

RECEIVED BY: 

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Introduced by Senators Vicente C. Sotto III and Panfilo M. Lacson

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### RESOLUTION

**CONFIRMING THE AUTHORITY CONFERRED BY LAW UPON THE SENATE PRESIDENT AND THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO FIX AND DETERMINE THE SALARIES, ALLOWANCES AND OTHER BENEFITS OF OFFICIALS AND EMPLOYEES OF THE SENATE AND THE COMMISSION ON APPOINTMENTS, AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, RESPECTIVELY, AND TO DETERMINE AND ADDRESS THE BUDGETARY REQUIREMENTS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE PERSONNEL, COMMITTEES AND SERVICE UNITS AS THEY MAY DEEM TO BE IN THE BEST INTEREST OF THE SERVICE, SUBJECT TO THE LIMITATIONS SET BY THE CONSTITUTION AND THE GENERAL APROPRIATIONS ACT**

*Resolved by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring, that:*

WHEREAS, Section 25 (5), Article VI of the Constitution provides that the Senate President and the Speaker of the House of Representatives may, by law, be authorized to augment any item in the general appropriations law for their respective offices from savings in other items of their respective appropriations;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10147, otherwise known as the General Appropriations Act (GAA) for Fiscal Year 2011, consistent with General Appropriations Acts enacted in previous years, authorize the President of the Senate, with respect to the Senate and the Commission on Appointments, the Speaker with respect to the House of Representatives, and the Chairmen of the Senate and the House Electoral Tribunals, to formulate and implement the organizational structure of their respective offices and such offices under their administrative control, and to fix the salaries, allowances and other benefits of their respective employees;

WHEREAS, this authority is granted notwithstanding the provisions of any law to the contrary, and is limited only by the appropriations granted to the Senate, the House of Representatives, the Commission on Appointments, the Senate Electoral Tribunal and the House of Representatives Electoral Tribunal under the General Appropriations Act;

WHEREAS, such authority is further subject to the proscription contained in Section 10 Article VI of the Constitution which prohibits any increase in the

compensation of the Members of the Senate and the House of Representatives from taking effect within the term of the Members who approved such increase;


WHEREAS, as the Supreme Court ruled in *Demetria v. Alba* (G.R. No. 71977, February 27, 1987), this power is granted to afford the heads of the different branches of the government considerable flexibility in the use of public funds and resources;

WHEREAS, such degree of flexibility, within the limitations set by the Constitution and the General Appropriations Act, is necessary, given the delicate and unique functions, operational and organizational structure of the Senate, the House of Representatives, the Commission on Appointments and the Senate and House Electoral Tribunals;

WHEREAS, this authority is essential to the preservation of the independence of Congress as a co-equal branch of the government and is in keeping with the nature of the performance by the members of the Senate and the House of Representatives and their respective committees of their legislative, oversight, and constituent functions and responsibilities, as well as with the performance of the Constitutional functions and duties of the Commission on Appointments, the Senate Electoral Tribunal and the House of Representatives Electoral Tribunal;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Senate, the House of Representatives concurring, to confirm the authority conferred by law upon the Senate President and the Speaker of the House of Representatives to fix and determine the salaries, allowances and other benefits of officials and employees of the Senate and the Commission on Appointments, and the House of Representatives, respectively, and to determine and address the budgetary requirements of the respective personnel, committees and service units under them as they may deem necessary given the exigencies and in the best interest of the service, subject to the limitations set by the Constitution and the General Appropriations Act.

Adopted,

The image shows two handwritten signatures in black ink. The top signature is clearly legible as 'Juan P. Enrile'. Below it is a second, more stylized signature that is less legible but appears to be another official's name.