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SENATE
P. S. R. No. **1102**

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALLEGED NEED FOR A STRONGER
GOVERNMENT PRESENCE ONLINE

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 9, states: "The State shall promote a just and dynamic social order that will ensure the prosperity and independence of the nation and free the people from poverty through policies that provide adequate social services, promote full employment, a rising standard of living, and an improved quality of life for all";

WHEREAS, the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* in its 11 May 2009 issue reported that the according to the National Computer Center (NCC), the Philippine government's presence on the Internet remains wanting;

WHEREAS, it was also reported that the despite several years after being mandated to set up websites, some government offices have yet to allow the public to do transactions online;

WHEREAS, it was alleged that the Philippines follows the United Nations-American Society of Public Administration (UN-ASPA) standards, which is comprised of five stages;

WHEREAS, the 2009 State of Web Presence of National Government Agencies (NGA) first quarter report alleged that out of 324 government offices, only 13 are in stage four, which allows public users to secure payment for certain government services; meanwhile, 98 NGAs are in stage three, which means users could download and submit forms online;

WHEREAS, the report also stated that there are 128 government websites in stage two, while 48 are in stage one;

WHEREAS, it was reported that under the UN-ASPA standards, stage one is a basic, static website that contains the agency's background and services, while stage two websites are those with constantly updated news sections and some downloadable information;

WHEREAS, it was also reported that there are 37 government agencies without their own websites;

WHEREAS, although there is a considerable number of government agencies in stages three and four, the number of websites in these levels have decreased slightly since some of the government websites have either been allegedly taken down and integrated with their parent websites or were under maintenance or being upgraded;

WHEREAS, the NCC, which is under the Commission on Information and Communications Technology, is mandated to help government agencies—including state universities and colleges (SUCs)—build web presence;

WHEREAS, there is a strong and urgent need to strengthen government presence online; a working online presence will create a better relationship with the public and is in consonance with the mandate to provide better service to the people;

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 alleged need for a stronger government presence online.

Adopted,

ac 
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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