

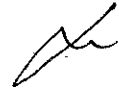
FOURTEENTH CONGRESS )  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Third Regular Session )

3 JUL -8 11:02

SENATE

P. S. Res. No. 1164

RECEIVED



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INTRODUCED BY THE HONORABLE MAR ROXAS

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A RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND ILLEGAL DRUGS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE WORSENING DANGEROUS DRUGS PROBLEM IN THE PHILIPPINES, WHICH WAS CITED BY THE UNITED NATION'S OFFICE ON DRUG AND CRIME (UNODC) AS A MAJOR TRANSSHIPMENT POINT FOR METHAMPHETAMINE HYDROCHLORIDE OR SHABU AND RANKED IT AMONG THE TOP FIVE SOURCES OF THE ILLEGAL DRUG IN THE WORLD, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF DETERMINING APPROPRIATE LEGISLATIVE MEASURES THAT WOULD CURB THE EXACERBATION OF THE DRUGS MENACE AND PROTECT OUR PEOPLE AGAINST HARMFUL EFFECTS OF DANGEROUS DRUGS.

WHEREAS, Section 2 of Republic Act No. 9165, otherwise known as the "*Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002*", declares the State policy to safeguard the integrity of its territory and the well-being of its citizenry particularly the youth, from the harmful effects of dangerous drugs on their physical and mental well-being, and to defend the same against acts or omissions detrimental to their development and preservation;

WHEREAS, the same provision further provides that the State needs to enhance further the efficacy of the law against dangerous drugs, it being one of today's more serious social ills;

WHEREAS, according to the United Nation's Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC), there are between 20-24 million serious drug users around the world, or less than one percent (1%) of the world's population, and around 200,000 people die annually of drug-related causes;

WHEREAS, in the UNODC 2009 World Drug Report released on 24 June 2009, the Philippines ranked fifth on the UNODC's list of major shabu seizures from 1998 to 2007, next to China, United States, Thailand and Taiwan;

WHEREAS, the above-referred Report also revealed that nine (9) clandestine laboratories and thirteen (13) chemical warehouses were dismantled in 2007 by authorities, which indicated a rise in figures that replicated the 2003 and 2004 statistics on clandestine laboratories and chemical warehouses busted by the authorities in our country;

WHEREAS, in another report, specifically the 2009 International Control Strategy Report (INCSR) dated 27 February 2009, the US State Department said corruption of police and other public officials remains an obstacle to better law enforcement in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, according to news reports, the illegal drug trade in our country had evolved into a billion-dollar industry;

WHEREAS, the matters that were exposed through the above-referred reports are highly alarming given the fact that dangerous drugs tremendously affect not only the physical and mental condition of those affected by it, but also detrimental to the over-all development of the people, especially the youth who are most vulnerable to it;


WHEREAS, in addition to the aggravating problem in the proliferation of illegal drugs, our country is also confronted with the difficulty in prosecuting drug-related cases and the susceptibility of our judiciary to harassments and threats from alleged drug syndicates, as experienced by Supreme Court Justice Arturo Brion, who according to news reports, has received death threats allegedly in relation to a drug case;

WHEREAS, the above-referred harassments and threats against the judiciary are very dangerous in the pursuit of justice and the prosecution of drug-related cases, which must be urgently addressed to prevent the potential chilling effect that they will bring to the judiciary;

WHEREAS, the worsening dangerous drugs problem in the country underlines the need to evaluate the effectiveness of the current government approach in addressing the issue and the necessity to determine legislative measures that will curb the drugs menace and protect our people against the harmful effects of dangerous drugs;

*NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED*, that the Senate direct the Senate Committee on Public Order and Illegal Drugs to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the worsening dangerous drugs problem in the Philippines, which was cited by the United Nation's Office on Drug and Crime (UNODC) as a major transshipment point for methamphetamine hydrochloride or shabu and ranked it among the top five sources of the illegal drug in the world, with the end in view of determining appropriate legislative measures that would curb the exacerbation of the drugs menace and protect our people against harmful effects of dangerous drugs.

Adopted,

  
MARR ROXAS  
Senator