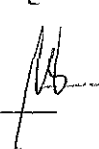


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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1150

RECEIVED BY 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED URBAN DECAY AND
ENVIRONMENTAL DEGRADATION THREATENING TO
DEVASTATE THE CITY OF PINES

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 16 states: "The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature";

WHEREAS, the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* in its article entitled "City of Pines Battles Urban Decay" dated 8 June 2009 reported that lowland tourists do not find Baguio as cold as it used to be; its downstreets (especially Session Road) are congested with vehicle and human traffic as bad as in Manila; its heritage buildings, relics of the city's American colonial rule, have been torn down; its pine tree cover is less dense than it was some decades ago; its streets overflow with mounds of garbage in plastic bags uncollected for weeks; and in recent years its face has been altered by the invasion of Korean business establishments and the ubiquitous presence of Korean nationals in the streets, places of entertainment, parks and in leased dwellings or buildings;

WHEREAS, the City of Baguio was once described as the "paradise city of pines";

WHEREAS, in the same article, it was reported that the lost heritage of Baguio is not to be found in these manifestations of urban development and squalor, but is to be found in the old public buildings that proclaim the city's glorious past;

WHEREAS, it was also reported that the City of Baguio is now swamped by the corrosive elements of urban decay and the ravages of environmental degradation;

WHEREAS, the local government of Baguio must vigilantly address these issues for the protection and preservation of the city's heritage composed of the edifices and public monuments dating back to the American colonial era;

WHEREAS, aside from colonial relics, Baguio City also has a healthful climate and is the only natural garden city in the Philippines, which must be preserved by the government;

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 reported urban decay and environmental degradation threatening to devastate the City of Pines.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO