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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1154

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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 REPORTED INCREASING INGENUITY AND
SOPHISTICATION OF SCAMS AND OTHER CRIMINAL ACTS AGAINST USERS
OF AUTOMATED TELLER MACHINES

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 5 provides: "The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy";

WHEREAS, the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* in its 25 June 2009 edition reported that the Bankers Association of the Philippines has issued a reminder to users of automated teller machines (ATMs) to take added security precautions to avoid becoming victims of fraud;

WHEREAS, it was reported that ATM-based scams and frauds have become more daring and ingenious over the years due to advances in technology;

WHEREAS, it was also reported that the BAP's call for vigilance was triggered by the recent case of ATM fraud in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) involving the capture of the cardholder's personal identification number (PIN) and other relevant information with the use of a specialized scanner; the captured information is then copied to produce a duplicate ATM card, allowing the scammers to make unauthorized withdrawals from the victim's bank accounts;

WHEREAS, the reports said the BAP urged ATM user to observe precaution and adhere to guidelines advising them to guard the privacy of the PINs for themselves, and be wary of possible tampered ATM machines and scammers in the vicinity of the machines;

WHEREAS, it was reported that the BAP has also issued an advisory to member banks to remind branch officers, employees and security guards to regularly inspect ATMs and booths for any unusual and non-bank installed devices, such as hidden cameras, cloning devices and glued traps, and to look out for suspicious individuals within bank premises, particularly around ATM booths;

WHEREAS, in addition to BAP's call for vigilance among ATM users, Congress should seriously consider crafting appropriate legislation to address the increasingly ingenious methods scammers employ in committing their crimes;

WHEREAS, regulating how and where banks install their ATM machines should be explored for both the protection of the bank branch and their clients;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved in the Philippine Senate, to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation, on the reported increasing ingenuity and sophistication of scams and fraudulent acts against users of automated teller machines.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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