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SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 1192

RECEIVED BY: 

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**INTRODUCED BY SENATOR MANNY VILLAR**

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**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND ILLEGAL DRUGS  
TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE  
INCREASING NUMBER OF FILIPINO DRUG MULES WHICH IS HEAVILY  
DAMAGING THE COUNTRY'S REPUTATION ABROAD**

**WHEREAS**, according to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime's 2009 World Drug Report, the Philippines is ranked as fifth in the world in methamphetamine seizures from 1998 to 2007;

**WHEREAS**, the Blas Ople Policy Center recorded more than 500 drug cases involving Filipinos in different parts of the world with 210 cases in China;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) reported that in 2008 alone, 111 Filipinos were arrested for drug-related offenses in mainland China, Hong Kong and Macau. This, the DFA said, was a 594-percent increase from the 16 arrested in 2007. Of those arrested in 2007 and 2008, 22 are facing death sentence, 12 have gotten life, while 11 have been made to serve 15-16 years prison terms;

**WHEREAS**, majority of the arrests had stemmed from narcotic drugs being found in the suspects' luggage supposedly given to them by people they met in a transit country – usually Thailand, Malaysia, Nepal, Laos and Vietnam. The members of foreign drug rings give Filipino mules tickets and pocket money to travel to Hong Kong or to mainland China and promise to pay the carriers upon delivery of the drugs to their destination;

**WHEREAS**, there are reports that there is a growing number of Filipino workers being used as drug couriers in Nigeria. Recently, the Blas Ople Policy Center exposed the intercontinental operations of a Nigerian drug syndicate that victimized one Filipino woman it sent halfway around the world to deliver the drugs. The Filipino victim was promised a well-paying job in Lima, Peru, by a local recruiter. From Bangkok, the Filipina went to Brazil then was told to go to Peru. Her movements were monitored every step of the way by the syndicate. In Peru, she ran out of money and was told to wait by her recruiter. It turned out that the syndicate had a problem with its contact in Peru so the deal turned sour;

**WHEREAS**, the unabated production and distribution of drugs within our borders have made it easier for international drug syndicates to tap Filipinos to export or smuggle drugs overseas. The government should, therefore, immediately crack down the local and foreign drug syndicates, including Nigerian drug syndicates, that entice Filipino to work as drug mules;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED,**  
to direct the Committee on Public Order and Illegal Drugs to conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, into the increasing number of Filipino drug mules which is heavily damaging the country's reputation abroad.

Adopted.



**MANNY VILLAR**