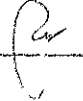


FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 592

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 WASTEFUL CONSUMPTION OF
ELECTRICITY BY THE CITY OF MANILA DUE TO THE NONIMPLEMENTATION OF
COST-SAVING MEASURES AND NONMONITORING OF ELECTRIC CONSUMPTION

WHEREAS, the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* in its 1 September 2011 issue reported that the Commission on Audit (COA) said it had observed that streetlights in most areas of Manila remain on “day in and day out”;

WHEREAS, the report alleged that the city’s electricity bills ballooned to P432.73 million, 40.33 percent higher than its 2009 electric bill due to keeping the street lamps on even during daytime;

WHEREAS, the COA also reportedly said that the higher electric charges were also because of additional maintenance costs for the replacement of bulbs that got busted too soon;

WHEREAS, the COA also cited other factors that that contributed to the spike in electricity use, such as the construction of two additional hospitals in Manila, which it described as a “laudable investment on health services”; and, the installation of additional lighting facilities in the city;

WHEREAS, the COA, however, reportedly noted another unpleasant reason for the spike in electricity consumption which was the reported pilferage or illegal wiretapping of electricity;

WHEREAS, it was reported that the engineering office of the city claimed that the city government has in fact been engaged in power-saving measures as well as in the operation of streetlights; however, thieves strike in the middle of the night and during the day, stealing all the power saved;

WHEREAS, the COA reportedly claimed that due to nonimplementation of cost-saving measures and nonmonitoring of consumption, the city incurred additional electricity costs which in turn resulted in the waste of funds;

WHEREAS, the audit agency reportedly recommended that the Manila City engineering office and other concerned offices go after electricity thieves so that the pilferage and illegal wiretapping would not jack up the city’s power bill;

WHEREAS, the COA also reportedly reminded the local government that power cost-saving measures should be implemented in all offices, hospitals, and other areas under Manila’s jurisdiction;

WHEREAS, in order to save on cost and resources, the legislature should create measures that will penalize government officials who do not comply and implement electric consumption monitoring and cost-saving measures;

WHEREAS, the State should also create measures that will prevent the increase of electric pilferage from state offices;

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 wasteful consumption of electricity by the city of Manila due to the nonimplementation of cost-saving measures and nonmonitoring of electric consumption.

Adopted,

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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