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SENATE
P. S. Res. No. 1306

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

RESOLUTION

URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE PROLIFERATION OF IMPORTED ONIONS IN THE LOCAL MARKET WHICH ARE NOT COVERED BY IMPORT PERMITS, WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF INTRODUCING LEGISLATION THAT WILL ADDRESS THE CONCERNS OF LOCAL ONIONS GROWERS AND FARMERS

Whereas, rampant smuggling of onions from China and India are flooding the market, while local harvests are stuck in cold storage plants;

Whereas, according to the Katipunan ng mga Magsisibuyas ng Nueva Ecija (Kasamne), more than 900 bags of onions produced in the country, valued at P825 million, are kept in warehouses in Nueva Ecija, Pangasinan, Tarlac, Pampanga and Bulacan since March;

Whereas, the group has been informed by the Bureau of Plant Industry (BPI) that no permit to import onions had been issued;

Whereas, despite strict rules on importation, imported onions continue to flood the market, which arrive in refrigerated vans in international ports;

Whereas, sixty five percent of onions produced in the country come from Nueva Ecija, where more than 10,000 farmers are engaged in onion growing and production;

Whereas, the livelihood of our onion farmers is threatened by the surge of imported onions which are priced much cheaper: Now therefore be it

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to urge the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Food and other appropriate committees, to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the proliferation of imported onions in the local market which are not covered by import permits, with the objective of introducing legislation that will address the concerns of local onion growers and farmers.

Adopted,


MANNY VILLAR