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

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SENATE PSR No. 702

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Introduced by Senator Aquilino "Koko" L. Pimentel III

## RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH AND DEMOGRAPHY, COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND OTHER APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CONDITION OF ALL THE DUMPSITES IN THE COUNTRY FOR THE PURPOSE OF DETERMINING AND RECOMMENDING APPROPRIATE ACTION IN VIEW OF RA 9003 - THE SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT ACT

**WHEREAS**, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 15, states that, "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**, Congress passed RA 9003 – the Solid Waste Management Act in 2003 which created the Solid Waste Management Commission under the Office of the President which is intended to be the coordinating body for the implementation of the Solid Waste Management program;

WHEREAS, under RA 9003, the Solid Waste Management Commission will manage the Solid Waste Management fund and study standards, criteria and guidelines for promulgation and implementation of an integrated national solid waste management framework and criteria and guidelines for siting, design, operation and maintenance of solid waste management facilities;

**WHEREAS**, the Solid Waste Management Commission was tasked to approve local solid waste management plans in accordance with its rules and regulations, review and monitor the implementation of local solid waste management plans, coordinate the operation of local solid waste management boards in the provincial and city/municipal levels;

**WHEREAS**, on August 27, 2011 heavy rains brought about by Typhoon Mina caused the mound of garbage at the Irisan dumpsite in Baguio City to loosen which in turn destroyed a retaining wall. The ensuing avalanche of trash killed three (3) people, destroyed three (3) homes and damaged many others;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services (PAGASA) reported that 2012 will be a wet year due to the La Niña phenomenon which will bring more rains to the country;

**WHEREAS**, Sec. Ramon Paje said that the Department of Environment and Natural Resources since 2006 has been sending out notice of violations to more than a thousand local government units operating open and controlled dumpsites;

**WHEREAS,** there is a need to evaluate the implementation of RA 9003 – the Solid Waste Management Act;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Senate of the Philippines, to direct the Senate Committee on Health and Demography, Committee on Local Government and other appropriate Senate Committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the condition of all dumpsites in the country for the purpose of determining and recommending appropriate action in view of RA 9003 – the Solid Waste Management Act.

Adopted,

AOUILINO "ROKO" L. PIMENTEL III