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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR PIA S. CAYETANO

A RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE TO ADOPT THE TWO (2) RESOLUTIONS OF THE JOINT CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON THE PHILIPPINE CLEAN WATER ACT OF 2004 REGARDING THE NATIONAL SEWERAGE AND SEPTAGE MANAGEMENT PROGRAM AND THE WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT AREAS IN THE PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, the Philippine Congress enacted the Clean Water Act of 2004 (Republic Act No. 9275) which aims to protect our bodies of water from pollution from domestic, industrial and agriculture activities as well as develop a plan to mitigate pollution and its hazards through a multi-sectoral and participatory approach;

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WHEREAS, the law actually imposes several mandates with a corresponding timeline but unfortunately, years have passed and the level of compliance leaves much to be desired;

WHEREAS, the Joint Congressional Oversight Committee on the Clean Water Act held hearings on various issues concerning the water sector in our country today;

WHEREAS, as an initial output of the said hearings, two (2) resolutions were enacted by the members of both the panel of the Senate and House of Representatives;

WHEREAS, the first resolution adopted by the Oversight Committee directs the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) and the National Economic Development Authority (NEDA) to implement the National Sewerage and Septage Management Program pursuant to the law;

WHEREAS, the other resolution adopted by the Oversight Committee directs the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the National Water Resources Board (NWRB) and the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) to designate Water Quality Management Areas likewise pursuant to the mandate in the law;

WHEREAS, these resolutions aim to give heightened awareness of the roles and responsibilities of the different agencies in preserving and conserving the environment, specifically in ensuring clean water;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Senate of the Philippines, expresses its sense for the adoption of the two (2) resolutions of the Joint Congressional Oversight Committee on the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004 regarding the National Sewerage and Septage Management Program and the Water Quality Management Areas in the Philippines.

Adopted,

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PIA S. CAYETANO Senato