

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

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SENATE
P.S. RES. 34

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR MAGSAYSAY, JR.

RESOLUTION

URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID LEGISLATION, INTO THE PLIGHT OF THE DETAINEES AT THE BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION DETENTION CENTERS WITH THE END-IN-VIEW OF RECOMMENDING IMMEDIATE REMEDIAL MEASURES TO ADDRESS THE SITUATION

Whereas, it is the policy of the state to value the dignity of every human person and guarantee full respect for human rights;

Whereas, Section 19, par.2 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution clearly states that, " The employment of physical, psychological, or degrading punishment against any prisoner or detainee or the use of substandard or inadequate penal facilities under subhuman conditions shall be dealt with by law;

Whereas, there are more than a hundred detainees at the BID detention center in Bicutan and at the main office's detention cell in Intramuros;

Whereas, there are reports alleging that BID personnel have been abusing the detainees, capitalizing on their helplessness by extorting money for their release and physically abusing them on the grounds of minor offenses committed within the BID compounds;

Whereas, there are reports alleging that some individuals/outsideers are being hired to broker for these BID official in their extortion activities as well as the institution of physical abuse against the detainees;

Whereas, there are allegation that "bail" money ranging from P50,000.00 to hundreds of thousands are being demanded from the detainees;

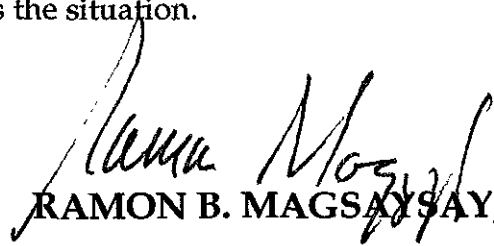
Whereas, there are detainees who have been staying inside the detention centers for as long as 3 years for simple charges of overstaying; and

Whereas, upon surprise ocular inspection, the Bicutan detention center prove to be overcrowded and lacked acceptable basic facilities.

Now therefore be it

Resolved, by the Senate, as it is hereby resolved, the Committee on Justice and Human Rights and other appropriate Committees to conduct an

inquiry, in aid of legislation, into the plight of the detainees at the Bureau of Immigration Detention Center with the end-in view of recommending immediate remedial measure to address the situation.


RAMON B. MAGSAYSAY, JR.