

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



14 FEB -6 P2:14

SENATE  
P. S. R. No. 486

RECEIVED BY: *ja*

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE NEED FOR BOTH NATIONAL AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS TO IDENTIFY AND STUDY FACTORS THAT CAUSE SULFUR UPWELLING OR *DUONG* IN THE COUNTRY'S BODIES OF WATER, SUCH AS THE ONE THAT REPORTEDLY CAUSED THE RECENT FISHKILL IN TAAL LAKE

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 16 states: "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, various news agencies have reported that sulfur upwelling or *duong* in Taal Lake has caused a massive fishkill in Talisay and Mataas na Kahoy, both in Batangas between January 19 to 21, 2014;

WHEREAS, Provincial Environment Specialist Joe Torreja reportedly said that recent reports on fishkill in Taal Lake is due to sulfur upwelling or *duong* is an annual occurrence to watch out for;

WHEREAS, this phenomenon is reportedly influenced by the north east monsoon, which disturbs sediments triggering the upwelling of hydrogen sulfide;

WHEREAS, it was reported that this phenomenon is manifested by the aquamarine coloration of the water, and a very strong putrid smell of rotten boiled eggs produced by sulfur;

WHEREAS, it was also reported that *duong* was initially observed in some parts of the lake, including Barangay Sala, Balete, where various fish species were found lifeless along its shoreline and open waters last 16 January 2014; blue-green coloration was also seen extending from Barangays Aya to Tumaway in Talisay on 17 January 2014;

WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the need for both national and local governments to identify and study factors that cause sulfur upwelling or *duong* in the country's bodies of water, such as the one that reportedly caused the recent fishkill in Taal Lake.

Adopted,

*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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