



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

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SENATE

P. S. R. No. 499

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INTRODUCED BY SENATORS SONNY ANGARA,  
PAOLO BENIGNO "BAM" AQUINO IV, TEOFISTO "TG" GUINGONA III,  
GRACE POE AND AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III

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RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF  
LEGISLATION, THE HIGH UNEMPLOYMENT RATE OF THE PHILIPPINES WITH THE END  
IN VIEW OF ADDRESSING THE CAUSES THEREOF.

**WHEREAS**, our national thrust for inclusive growth requires us to ensure that our country's recent robust economic gains will be translated into more employment opportunities for Filipinos;

**WHEREAS**, the Social Weather Station Survey for September to December 2013 shows that our country's unemployment rate rose to 27.5 percent, representing around 12.1 million unemployed Filipinos. This rate is a 6-point increase from the 21.7 percent unemployment rate in the previous quarter, representing some 9.6 million unemployed Filipinos;

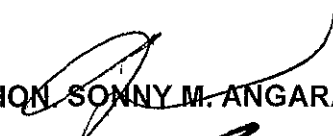
**WHEREAS**, the government's Labor Force Survey for October 2013 shows a youth unemployment rate of 14.5%, more than twice the national average. Nearly half (47.5%, representing 1.236 million Filipinos) of the total unemployed workforce were young workers (aged 15 to 24 years old). Agriculture sector employment was down (-2.6%), while employment growth was sluggish in the service sector (1.6%) and industry sector (1.0%);

**WHEREAS**, numerous factors have been cited as causes for the rise in our unemployment rate, such as Typhoon Yolanda which devastated large areas in the Visayas, the 7.2 magnitude earthquake which damaged Bohol and Cebu, and the siege of Zamboanga City,

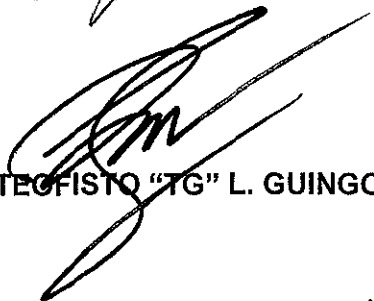
**WHEREAS**, there is an urgent need to investigate, in aid of legislation, the rise in our country's unemployment rate, with the end in view of crafting legislative measures to help our manufacturing, agriculture, services, and other sectors, and address our social problem of high unemployment and its negative effects on unemployed workers, their families, and Philippine society in general;

**WHEREFORE**, be it resolved by the Philippine Senate to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the current state of employment in the country.

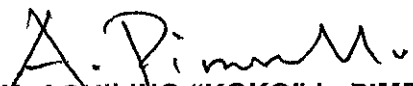
**Adopted.**

  
HON. SONNY M. ANGARA

  
HON. PAOLO BENIGNO "BAM" A. AQUINO IV

  
HON. TEFISTO "TG" L. GUINGONA III

  
HON. GRACE L. POE

  
HON. AQUILINO "KOKO" L. PIMENTEL III