

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 508

RECEIVED BY: *ji*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED ILLEGAL QUARRYING OPERATIONS IN
AURORA PROVINCE AND ITS IMPACT ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND AFFECTED
COMMUNITIES

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 16 provides: "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, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 27 also provides: "The State shall maintain honesty and integrity in the public service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption";

WHEREAS, the Journal Online (journal.com.ph) posted a news article last 10 February 2014 reporting on alleged illegal quarry operators making a killing in the Aurora province and wreaking havoc on earth resources under the administration of Gov. Gerardo Noveras;

WHEREAS, according to the report, a highly reliable source said that illegal quarry operations have gone rampant in this town, particularly underneath the Aguang Bridge and in Bgy. Diteki, San Luis;

WHEREAS, the news article quoted the anonymous source, who said that a barangay official identified as "Galvelo" is in charge of illegal quarry operations in Diteki where trucks owned by contractors haul big boulders;

WHEREAS, the source also reportedly said Maria Teresa de Luna, environment and natural resources officer (ENRO) in the province, appears not to be doing anything to arrest the unabated illegal quarrying operations in the province;

WHEREAS, there is a need to look into the possible negligence and graft and corruption act by the local government officials, PNP personnel, and the ENRO responsible in monitoring and protecting the environment in the said province;

WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the reported illegal quarrying operations in Aurora province and the impact of the quarrying operations on the environment and its affected communities.

Adopted,

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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