

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



Senate  
Office of the Secretary

14 FEB 27 P4:33

SENATE  
P. S. Res. No. 540

RECEIVED BY:         

---

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

---

**RESOLUTION**  
**DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO INVESTIGATE,**  
**IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE RELEASE BY THE BUREAU OF**  
**IMMIGRATION OF A BRITISH NATIONAL ARRESTED FOR ALLEGED**  
**SEXUAL ABUSE OF A FILIPINO MINOR**

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine Constitution provides that the State shall defend the right of children to special protection from all forms of abuse, cruelty, exploitation and other conditions prejudicial to their development;

**WHEREAS**, under Republic Act No. 7610 or the Special Protection of Children Against Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act, it is the declared policy of the State to provide sanctions for the commission of child abuse and exploitation and carry out a program for prevention and deterrence of and crisis intervention in situations of child abuse, exploitation and discrimination;

**WHEREAS**, it is likewise a declared policy of the State to intervene on behalf of the child when the parent, guardian, teacher or person having care or custody of the child fails or is unable to protect the child against abuse, exploitation and discrimination;

**WHEREAS**, according to a news report published on GMA News Online last February 25, 2014<sup>1</sup>, immigration authorities have released Lynch Morris, a 78-year-old British National, accused of sexually molesting a 6-year-old girl in Tarlac;

**WHEREAS**, the father of the victim filed a complaint before the Bureau of Immigration accusing Lynch Morris of sexually abusing his child three times in 2010;

**WHEREAS**, Lynch Morris was intercepted by airport operatives at the Diosdado Macapagal Airport in Pampanga and was barred from leaving the country;

**WHEREAS**, Lynch Morris was detained at the Bureau of Immigration Warden Facility in Taguig City;

---

<sup>1</sup> GMA News Online, Immigration Bureau frees alleged British pedophile, February 25, 2014, Retrieved from: <http://www.gmanetwork.com/news/story/350044/news/nation/immigration-bureau-frees-alleged-british-pedophile>.

**WHEREAS**, immigration authorities released Lynch Morris on the grounds that the father of the victim has withdrawn the criminal charges filed against the British national and that the suspected pedophile has no criminal record in the country;

**WHEREAS**, according to the news report, a group called Foreigners for Justice questioned the release of Lynch Morris and that a legal staff official of the Bureau of Immigration was disgusted with the release order;

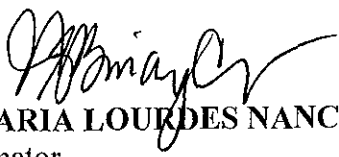
**WHEREAS**, according to the news report, the Bureau of Immigration official was quoted as saying: "These commissioners will hold foreigners for minor overstays for years and not give bail but will release a pedophile within 2 months of his arrest;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines is becoming a sex tourist spot for foreign sexual predators because of ease of entry to and exit from the country, making Filipino children vulnerable to sexual abuse and exploitation by foreign nationals;

**WHEREAS**, it is the duty of the Senate, by policy or law, to protect and uphold the rights of Filipino children from all forms of abuse and exploitation;

**RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, by the Senate of the Philippines, to direct the appropriate senate committees to investigate, in aid of legislation, the release by the Bureau of Immigration of a British national arrested for alleged sexual abuse of a Filipino minor.

Adopted,

  
**MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY**  
Senator