

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



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SENATE
P.S.R. No. 569

RECEIVED BY: *[Signature]*

Introduced by Senator Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III

A RESOLUTION
CALLING ON THE COMMISSION ON AUDIT TO CONDUCT
A SPECIAL AUDIT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
AGRICULTURE'S "ORGANIC AGRICULTURAL FUND"
(SPECIALLY FOR THE YEAR 2012)

WHEREAS, the funds of the 'Organic Agricultural Fund' are administered and allocated by the Department of Agriculture supposedly for the furtherance of organic agricultural endeavors and other undertakings for the benefit of marginal farming families;

WHEREAS, there is strong evidence of abuse, misuse, and possible graft and corruption in the usage of the said Fund as shown by a "Memorandum of Agreement" (MoA) between the Department of Agriculture and the Province of Surigao del Sur under date of November 20, 2012, signed by Mr. Antonio A. Fleta, as Undersecretary for Administration and Finance of the Department of Agriculture, and the Governor of Surigao del Sur;

WHEREAS, this MoA, as manifested in one of the "whereas" clauses which mentions that the Office of one of the Members of the Philippine Senate had been purportedly allocated the amount of Ten Million Pesos (P10,000,000.00) out of the said 'Organic Agricultural Fund', is based on falsified, false, and forged documents;

WHEREAS, the said MoA's supporting documents made it appear that Senator Aquilino L. Pimentel III or his office had participated in the act of requesting the Department of Agriculture for the release of Thirty Million Pesos (P30,000,000.00) and thereafter choosing and identifying Surigao del Sur as the beneficiary of Ten Million Pesos (P10,000,000.00) for organic farming related activities;

WHEREAS, Senator Aquilino L. Pimentel III had denied participating in or even directly or indirectly authorizing any such act, proceeding, or transaction;

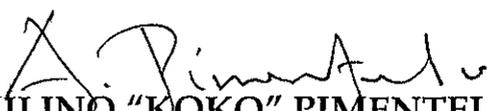
WHEREAS, considering that the victim of this scam is an incumbent Member of the Philippine Senate, whose name and office had been used to perpetrate fraud, there is a need to find out the extent of the scam or fraud involving the said 'Organic Agricultural Fund' administered by the Department of Agriculture specially for the year 2012 which is the date of the subject MoA which was itself based on falsified, false, and forged documents;

WHEREAS, a special audit of the 'Organic Agricultural Fund' administered by the Department of Agriculture specially for the year 2012 by the Commission on Audit can and will give the public as well as the Government's prosecution arm much needed information on the extent of the fraud involving the said Fund; and

WHEREAS, the said special audit will be the first step in bringing to justice the perpetrators of this scam involving millions of public funds;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE TO CALL ON AND FORMALLY REQUEST THE COMMISSION ON AUDIT TO CONDUCT A SPECIAL AUDIT OF THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE'S "ORGANIC AGRICULTURAL FUND" (SPECIALLY FOR THE YEAR 2012) IN ORDER TO DETERMINE THE EXTENT OF THE SHENANIGANS IN THE USAGE OF THE SAID FUND AND BRING TO JUSTICE THE PERPETRATORS OF THIS MULTI-MILLION FRAUD AND THEFT OF PUBLIC FUNDS.

Adopted,


AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III