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

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SENATE

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P.S. Res. No. 592

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND COMMITTEE ON TOURISM TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS' IMPOSITION OF FEES FOR THE OPERATION OF TOURISM ESTABLISHMENTS AND THE ENGAGEMENT OF TOURISM WORKERS

WHEREAS, it is the practice of some local government units where tourism is a significant industry to impose fees for the operation of tourism establishments and the employment of tourism workers;

WHEREAS, in the case of the Puerto Galera in Oriental Mindoro, the Puerto Galera Business and Tourism Enterprises Association lodged a complaint with the Ombudsman against officials of the local government unit concerning the imposition of fees in excess of those necessary to obtain a business permit;

WHEREAS, Article X, Section 5 of the Philippine Constitution provides "Each local government unit shall have the power to create its own sources of revenues and to levy taxes, fees and charges subject to such guidelines and limitations as the Congress may provide, consistent with the basic policy";

WHEREAS, there is a need to study the fees being imposed by local government units on tourism establishments and tourism workers to ensure that the same are not redundant, excessive or arbitrary and that the same do not prohibit the growth of the tourism industry;

WHEREAS, there is a need to investigate this matter in order to establish guidelines and limitations on the power of local government units to impose fees on tourism establishments and workers;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that the Senate

Committee on Tourism be directed to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on local

government units' imposition of fees for the operation of tourism establishments and the engagement of tourism workers.

Adopted,

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MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID Senator MM