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SENATE P.S.R No. 608

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

## RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE REPORT THAT SOME LOCAL OVERSEAS EMPLOYMENT AGENCIES ARE INVOLVED IN JOB SCAMS

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 18 provides that: "The State affirms labor as a primary social economic force. It shall protect the rights of workers and promote their welfare";

WHEREAS, the *Manila Bulletin*, in its 21 March 2014 issue reported that some local overseas employment agencies are involved in job scams;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) reportedly warned nurses and care givers against online recruitment scams that offers jobs in the Canadian Virtual Hospice in Winnipig, Canada;

WHEREAS, the POEA reportedly said that the swindler sends e-mails to interested applicants urging them to submit resumes for an online evaluation before they are required to attend a two day coaching seminar;

WHEREAS, it was reported that the e-mail also claimed that applicants would not be required to pay any hidden charges except for the medical exam and a coaching fee that they can remit through an accredited payment center;

WHEREAS, the POEA reportedly issued a warning for aspiring overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) not to entertain these bogus job offers;

WHEREAS; the report said that the POEA earlier warned OFWs against Metrix recruitment and Gers global, which offer non-existent worm picking jobs in Canada;

WHEREAS; according to the POEA, applicants should always verify the license of their recruitment agency and check if also has valid job offers in POEA office;

WHEREAS; it is the duty of the government to provide better jobs for its people in order to prevent them from leaving; however, it is also equally important that the government protect its citizens aspiring to work abroad from greedy and exploitive bogus placing agencies;

WHEREAS; the State should therefore create measures to prevent the proliferation of fake placing agencies and intensify its information dissemination campaign against these bogus agencies;

WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the report that some local overseas employment agencies are involved in job scams.

Adopted,

MIRIAM DEPENSOR SANTIAGO

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