


14 MAY 26 P2:46

SENATE

P.S. Res. No. **669**

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced By Senator Loren Legarda

RESOLUTION

URGING THE APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES SUCH AS THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (DFA), THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT (DOLE), THE OVERSEAS WORKERS WELFARE ADMINISTRATION (OWWA) AND OTHER LABOR RELATED AGENCIES OF THE GOVERNMENT, TO EXERCISE THE DOCTRINE OF *PARENS PATRIAE* OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE GUARDIAN OF THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE, IN PURSUING THE FILING OF CRIMINAL, CIVIL AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CHARGES AGAINST THE PRINCIPAL EMPLOYER, THE LOCAL PHILIPPINE AGENT AND SUCH OTHER PERSONALITIES RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INHUMANE TREATMENT INFLICTED UPON OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKER PAHIMA ALAGASI PALACASI WHO APPARENTLY SUFFERED SECOND DEGREE BURNS WHEN HER EMPLOYER'S MOTHER DOUSED BOILING WATER ON HER

WHEREAS, the doctrine of *parens patriae* is defined as the inherent power and authority of the state to provide protection to every citizen specially to those persons who are incapable of defending themselves due to his or her limited capability;

WHEREAS, the government, its officers and agents, sworn to perform its mandated obligation to protect the citizenry is thus duty-bound to follow the aforementioned doctrine particularly when our less fortunate countrymen abroad, by reason of their limited knowledge about the laws of their host country and scarce financial capacity, are unable to protect themselves or enforce their rights against their oppressors;

WHEREAS, R.A. No. 8042, otherwise known as the Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Act of 1995 was enacted on June 7, 1995, subsequently amended on July 27, 2009 by Republic Act No. 10022, the purpose of which was to further improve the standard of protection and promotion of the welfare of migrant workers, their families and overseas Filipinos in distress, and for other purposes;

WHEREAS, just recently, pictures of Pahima Alagasi Palacasi, an Overseas Filipino Worker in Saudi Arabia went viral over social media showing the second degree burns she suffered in the hands of her foreign employer's family member who doused boiling water on her;

WHEREAS, this inhumane treatment inflicted on Ms. Palacasi is a clear case that deserves the application of the aforementioned doctrine by the government in pursuing legal action in her behalf such as criminal, civil and such other appropriate international remedies, against her principal employer and its local Philippine agent, to afford her

justice, with the end in view of ensuring that the person/s responsible for this cruel conduct deserve/s a distinct place in jail, among others;

WHEREAS, such drastic action against Ms. Palacasi's perpetrators will serve as a stern warning against abusive employers of OFWs and a deterrent to the rampant practice of maltreatment suffered by our countrymen specially those in the vulnerable household service sector;

WHEREAS, the pursuit of justice that ought to be exhibited by the government upon this particular case will likewise operate as a redeeming value for the more than two million OFWs abroad that government is absolutely serious in uplifting their rights even in a foreign jurisdiction;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, TO URGE THE APPROPRIATE GOVERNMENT AGENCIES SUCH AS THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (DFA), THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT (DOLE), THE OVERSEAS WORKERS WELFARE ADMINISTRATION (OWWA) AND OTHER LABOR RELATED AGENCIES OF THE GOVERNMENT, TO EXERCISE THE DOCTRINE OF *PARENS PATRIAE* OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE GUARDIAN OF THE RIGHTS OF THE PEOPLE, IN PURSUING THE FILING OF CRIMINAL, CIVIL AND OTHER APPROPRIATE CHARGES AGAINST THE PRINCIPAL EMPLOYER, THE LOCAL PHILIPPINE AGENT AND SUCH OTHER PERSONALITIES RESPONSIBLE FOR THE INHUMANE TREATMENT INFLECTED UPON OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKER PAHIMA ALAGASI PALACASI WHO APPARENTLY SUFFERED SECOND DEGREE BURNS WHEN HER EMPLOYER'S MOTHER DOUSED BOILING WATER ON HER.

Adopted,


LOREN LEGARDA
Senator