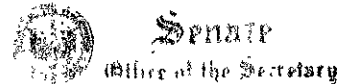


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )



'14 AUG -6 P2 :07

SENATE  
P. S. R. No: 813

RECEIVED BY: *Jr*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED DEATH OF A FILIPINO ENGINEER IN SAUDI ARABIA WHO ALLEGEDLY DIED IN A CAR ACCIDENT BUT HIS REMAINS WERE REPATRIATED IN A TWO-FOOT COFFIN, SIGNIFYING THAT HIS BODY WAS MUTILATED

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

WHEREAS, on 4 July 2014, the *Manila Bulletin* reported that the family of an overseas Filipino worker (OFW) engineer working in Saudi Arabia has sought the help of the Senate to look into the circumstance on the real cause of the death of their relative;

WHEREAS, Engineer Bautista stood 5 feet, 8 inches tall but the body of the deceased engineer was repatriated in a two-foot sealed coffin, prompting the family to doubt the real cause of his death;

WHEREAS, Bataan Board Member Dexter Bautista "Teri Onor" Dominguez, a close relative and neighbor of the victim, alleged that authorities in Saudi Arabia reported that Engineer Albert Bautista died in a car accident;

WHEREAS, the same article quoted Dominguez as saying that he received raw information that Bautista was still alive for four hours when he was brought to the hospital in Saudi Arabia after the reported accident;

WHEREAS, the Bataan Board Member further alleged that for unknown reasons, the victim's body had been chopped into pieces and crushed beyond recognition when it arrived in a sealed coffin in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, the same news report alleged that the victim was already preparing to come home because his contract was about to end, but this (contract) was reportedly extended for 10 days during which time Bautista died;

WHEREAS, the report also claimed that according to Dominguez, Engr. Bautista, who holds a sensitive position in his work in Saudi had discovered an anomaly in the company, and this could probably be the reason behind his murder;

WHEREAS, stricter application of labor laws should be implemented to safeguard OFWs from abuse, neglect, and foul play;

WHEREAS, the State should also review its policies and laws with regard to the protection of OFWs;

WHEREFORE, BE HEREBY IT RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation, on the reported death of a Filipino engineer in Saudi Arabia who allegedly died in a car accident but his remains were repatriated in a two-foot coffin, signifying that his body was mutilated.

Adopted,

*all.*  
  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

/mb