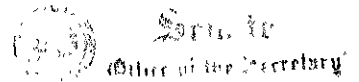


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



15 FEB 10 P1 52

SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1163

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
[Signature]

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED RAMPANT DRUG TRADE INSIDE NEW
BILIBID PRISON PERPETRATED BY NOTORIOUS DRUG LORD INMATES

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 2, provides: “The State shall maintain honesty and integrity in the public service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption”;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10575, also known as The Bureau of Corrections Act of 2013, provides: “It is the policy of the State to promote the general welfare and safeguard the basic rights of every prisoner incarcerated in our national penitentiary. It also recognizes the responsibility of the State to strengthen government capability aimed towards the institutionalization of highly efficient and competent correctional services”;

WHEREAS, on 20 January 2015, *Manila Bulletin* reported that illegal drug activities inside the New Bilibid Prison (NBP) have shifted from the maximum security compound to the state prison’s minimum security area;

WHEREAS, it was alleged that sources from the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) revealed that they have monitored illegal drug activities inside the NBP’s minimum security compound and the Reception and Diagnostic Center of the Bureau of Corrections (BuCor), which both requires little supervision from the jail guards as compared to the maximum security;

WHEREAS, the report claimed that according to NBI sources, who refused to be named, the intelligence community is looking on the possible involvement of minimum security compound inmates Rodel Costelo and Gerry Pepino in the country’s drug trade;

WHEREAS, both Costelo and Pepino were also allegedly living luxuriously in the minimum security compound;

WHEREAS, sources from NBI reportedly said that drug transactions inside the NBP hospital were monitored and confirmed;

WHEREAS, the occurrence of illicit drug trade inside jail facilities such as the New Bilibid Prison is unacceptable as it undermines authorities, violates correctional laws in place, and puts the lives of rank-and-file employees inside the penitentiary in danger;

WHEREAS, there is also a need to look into the conditions of jail facilities in the country, whether there is a need to start building special penitentiaries for notorious prisoners or by simply segregating them in jail complexes and to formulate legislations that will effectively stop illegal activities inside jails;

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 reported rampant drug trade inside the New Bilibid Prison perpetrated by notorious drug lord inmates.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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