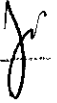


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



15 MAR -3 P4 :26

SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1213

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, ON REPORTED COMPLAINTS AGAINST THE PHILIPPINE
EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON, D.C.

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 27 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. 6713, Section 4 (b) states:

Public officials and employees shall perform and discharge their duties with the highest degree of excellence, professionalism, intelligence and skill. They shall enter public service with utmost devotion and dedication to duty. They shall endeavor to discourage wrong perceptions of their roles as dispensers or peddlers of undue patronage;

WHEREAS, the *Manila Bulletin* on 22 February 2015, reported that Filipinos in the United States are taking to social media their complaints against the Philippine Embassy in Washington, D.C. over alleged favoritism at the diplomatic post;

WHEREAS, the news quoted a Facebook user as saying that all clients who do not know anyone at the embassy have experienced poor service and rudeness from embassy personnel;

WHEREAS, another Filipino alleged that she had to wait in line for a long time for passport renewal while a former employee who just arrived was immediately attended to;


WHEREAS, the *Bulletin* also quoted another Facebook user who questioned the embassy for not allowing Filipinos to wait inside the reception area despite the bitter cold, even when the area is large enough to accommodate such clients;

WHEREAS, it is the duty of government to attend to the needs of its people, whether here or abroad, and, in the exercise of such mandate, employ competent Foreign Service agents;

WHEREAS, Congress, through relevant legislation, must put in place mechanisms for the evaluation of the performance of government employees posted in embassies abroad;

WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to conduct and inquiry, in aid of legislation, on reported complaints against the Philippine Embassy in Washington, D.C.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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