

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



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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1231

RECEIVED BY: J

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE RECENT COMMISSION ON AUDIT (COA) REPORT THAT
THE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT HAD A TOTAL UNLIQUIDATED CASH ADVANCES
AMOUNTING TO A TOTAL OF ₱436,928,955.35 IN 2013

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, the Constitution also states in Article 2, Section 28: "Subject to reasonable
conditions prescribed by law, the State adopts and implements a policy of full public disclosure
of all its transactions involving public interest";

WHEREAS, Presidential Decree No. 1445, otherwise known as the "State Audit Code of
the Philippines," Section 89, states:

Limitations on cash advance. No cash advance shall be given unless for a
legally authorized specific purpose. A cash advance shall be reported on and
liquidated as soon as the purpose for which it was given has been served. No
additional cash advance shall be allowed to any official or employee unless the
previous cash advance given to him is first settled or a proper accounting thereof
is made.

WHEREAS, state auditors found that the Office of the President had ₱436,928,955.35 in
unliquidated cash advances as of 31 December 2013;

1 WHEREAS, in its recently released report, the Commission on Audit (COA), said this
2 amount was the sum of ₱8,045,139.89 in advances to officers and employees and
3 ₱428,883,815.46 in other receivables;

4 WHEREAS, of the total amount, ₱425,614,804.99 allegedly pertained to accounts from
5 the previous administrations while ₱11,314,150.36 was incurred by the Aquino administration;

6 WHEREAS, state auditors further claimed that additional cash advances were granted to
7 accountable officers although previous cash advances were not yet settled;

8 WHEREAS, the COA said this is in violation of rules governing the release, use, and
9 liquidation of cash advances;

10 WHEREAS, as the seat of power of the highest official of the land, Malacañang must
11 ensure that all its agencies abide by principles of transparency in accountability in all financial
12 transactions;

13 WHEREAS, it is imperative for Congress, on which the power of the purse rests, to
14 ensure that public funds are judiciously used for their intended purpose;

15 WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct
16 the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the recent
17 Commission on Audit (COA) report that the Office of the President had a total unliquidated cash
18 advances amounting to a total of ₱436,928,955.35 in 2013.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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