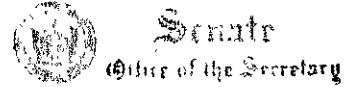


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



15 MAR 11 P5:27

SENATE

PS Res. No. 1236

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by SENATOR SONNY ANGARA

**RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING THE CELEBRATION OF EARTH HOUR ON 28 MARCH 2015 AND
EARTH DAY ON 22 APRIL 2015 AND REAFFIRMING ITS SUPPORT FOR THE
OBJECTIVES THEREOF**

1 **WHEREAS**, Earth Hour is a global annual environmental movement for the
2 planet organized by the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) to encourage individuals,
3 communities, households and businesses to turn off their non-essential lights for one
4 hour, from 8:30 to 9:30 p.m. on the last Saturday in March, as a symbol for their
5 commitment to the planet;

6
7 **WHEREAS**, the Earth Hour initiative seeks to encourage individuals, businesses
8 and governments around the world to take accountability for their ecological
9 footprint and engage in dialogue and resource exchange that provides real solutions to
10 our environmental challenges;

11
12 **WHEREAS**, The first Earth Hour event famously started as a lights-off event in
13 Sydney, Australia on March 31, 2007. WWF-Australia inspired Sydney-siders to show
14 their support for climate change action. More than 2.2 million individuals and 2,000
15 businesses turned their lights out for one hour in first Earth Hour event;

16
17 **WHEREAS**, a 2014 study published in Energy Research and Social
18 Science compiled 274 measurements of observed changes in electricity demand
19 caused by Earth Hour in 10 countries, spanning 6 years, and found that the events
20 reduced electricity consumption an average of 4%;

21
22 **WHEREAS**, Earth Day marks the anniversary of what many consider the birth of
23 the modern environmental movement in 1970. Earth Day 1970 achieved a rare political
24 alignment, enlisting support from Republicans and Democrats, rich and poor, city
25 slickers and farmers, tycoons and labor leaders. The first Earth Day led to the creation
26 of the United States Environmental Protection Agency and the passage of the Clean
27 Air, Clean Water, and Endangered Species Acts;

28
29 **WHEREAS**, Earth Day seeks to broaden the base of support for environmental
30 programs, rekindle public commitment and build community activism around the world
31 through a broad range of events and activities;

32
33 **WHEREAS**, Earth Day is the largest civic event in the world, celebrated
34 simultaneously around the globe by people of all backgrounds, faiths and nationalities
35 with more than 150 countries and billions of people participating in its campaigns every
36 year;

1 **WHEREAS**, the Philippines has been participating in the annual Earth Hour since
2 2009. In 2013, more than 1,600 of the 7,000 communities worldwide who joined the
3 cause were located in the country. Over 15 million Filipinos have joined Earth Hour.
4 This massive support for Earth Hour earned the Philippines the “Earth Hour Hero
5 Country” title for four consecutive years;

6
7 **WHEREAS**, the Earth Day Network Philippines is composed of more than 2,000
8 entities from different sectors of Philippines society such as organizations, LGUs,
9 businesses, churches and schools all working for environmental protection,
10 conservation, and awareness;

11
12 **WHEREAS**, in the Philippines, the celebration focuses on the different
13 environmental issues such as climate change as well as the restoration and
14 conversation of our watersheds;

15
16 **WHEREAS**, the objectives of these celebrations are particularly relevant to the
17 Philippines given its vulnerability to natural disasters. In fact, recent research shows that
18 eight (8) of the ten (10) and twenty one (21) of the one hundred (100) most disaster-
19 prone cities in the world are in the Philippines;

20
21 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, that the Senate of the Philippines: (1)
22 recognizes the celebration of Earth Hour on 28 March 2015 from 8:30 to 9:30 pm and
23 the celebration of Earth Day on 22 April 2015; (2) reaffirms its support for the objectives
24 of Earth Hour and Earth Day and its commitment to the environment; and, (3)
25 encourages the people of the Republic of the Philippines to observe “Earth Hour” and
26 “Earth Day”.

27
28 Adopted.


SENATOR SONNY ANGARA