

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



'15 MAY -6 P4 37

SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1312

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 REPORT THAT 47 IRAYA MANGYAN TRIBES WILL BE
DISPLACED DUE TO THE PROPOSED LANDFILL PROJECT IN PUERTO GALERA

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 16 provides: "The State shall protect and promote the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature";

WHEREAS, Republic Act 8371, also known as the "The Indigenous Peoples' Rights Act of 1997", Section 2, paragraph b states: "The State shall protect the rights of ICCs/IPs to their ancestral domains to ensure their economic, social and cultural well being and shall recognize the applicability of customary laws governing property rights or relations in determining the ownership and extent of ancestral domain";

WHEREAS, Presidential Decree No. 600, Section 2 states: "It is hereby declared a national policy to prevent and control the pollution of seas by the dumping of wastes and other matter which create hazards to human health, harm living resources, and marine life; damage amenities; or interfere with the legitimate uses of the sea within the territorial jurisdiction of the Philippines";

WHEREAS, various news reports on 17 April 2015 said that about 47 Iraya Mangyan tribes will be evicted from their ancestral lands because of the ₱66-million Puerto Galera dump project;

WHEREAS, the tribe claimed that the proposed Categorized Waste Disposal Facility/Sanitary Landfill Project will displace them and contaminate the purity of the nearby source of springwater flowing into the Tamaraw Falls;

WHEREAS, according to the Mangyan leader, the proposed dump project will adversely affect their livelihood derived from agriculture, the Tamaraw Falls, the community, and their two-year old two-classroom school buildings where 50 Mangyan children use for their elementary education;

1 WHEREAS, National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) Provincial Officer
2 Karen Ignacio reportedly gave the Mangyans until the end of the month to sign the resolution
3 agreeing to relocate to another area, far from the proposed municipal dump and landfill project,

4 WHEREAS, it was alleged that the municipal resolution that the Iraya Mangyans refused
5 to sign says they endorse the sanitary landfill and waste disposal project and they agree to a
6 relocation site far from their village;

7 WHEREAS, the Mangyan leader noted that the NCIP must respect and honor R.A. No.
8 8371 that recognizes their ancestral land rights;

9 WHEREAS, Congress, through relevant legislation, should protect the rights of the
10 indigenous peoples in order to ensure their

11 WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct
12 the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the report that 47
13 Iraya Mangyan tribes will be displaced due to the proposed landfill project in Puerto Galera.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
RP

/rjd