

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

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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1318

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE COMMISSION ON AUDIT REPORT THAT THE
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE MISUSED SOME ₱14 BILLION 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 further provides, 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, the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* on 22 April 2015 quoted state auditors as
charging that the Department of Agriculture (DA), under Secretary Proceso Alcala, used more
than ₱14.4 billion for 2013 projects implemented despite violations of laws and regulations;

WHEREAS, the Commission on Audit claimed in its annual review that the DA financed
several anomalous programs using the regular funds it received from the national government
and allotments from the Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF) and Disbursement
Acceleration Program (DAP);

WHEREAS, also reportedly discovered in the audit were the releases of funds to several
nongovernment organizations (NGOs), including one set up by businesswoman suspected pork
barrel scam mastermind Janet Lim-Napoles;

WHEREAS, state auditors also allegedly found that some attached agencies of the DA,
such as the National Agricultural and Fishery Council (NAFC), implemented projects that were
not part of their mandate;

1 WHEREAS, a number of projects were also reportedly left incomplete despite the release
2 of allotted funds while others were undertaken without the necessary documents for the proper
3 liquidation of funds.


4 WHEREAS, the COA claimed that of the 1,079 kilometers of road networks funded by
5 the DA under its Farm-to-Market Road Development Project, only 270 kilometers had been
6 completed after a year;

7 WHEREAS, state auditors said this meant that of the ₱7.8 billion allocated for the
8 infrastructure project in 2013, only some ₱1.7 billion had been used for project implementation
9 while the remaining ₱6.1 billion were either not yet started or implemented;

10 WHEREAS, alongside its exercise of the power of the purse, Congress should ensure that
11 malfeasance, misfeasance, and charges of graft and corruption in the government are
12 immediately addressed;

13 WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct
14 the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the Commission on
15 Audit report that the Department of Agriculture misused some ₱14 billion in 2013.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAAGO
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