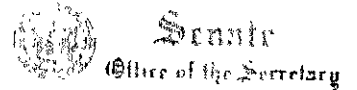



SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )



15 MAY 14 AM 51

SENATE  
P. S. R. No. 1347

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

1 RESOLUTION  
2 DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID  
3 OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORT THAT PHILIPPINE EAGLE HABITATS IN SAMAR  
4 ISLAND ARE IN PERIL

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

8 WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9147, otherwise known as the "Wildlife Resources  
9 Conservation and Protection Act," states:

10 It shall be the policy of the State to conserve the country's wildlife  
11 resources and their habitats for sustainability. In the pursuit of this policy, this Act  
12 shall have the following objectives:

- 13 (a) to conserve and protect wildlife species and their habitats to promote  
14 ecological balance and enhance biological diversity;  
15 (b) to regulate the collection and trade of wildlife;  
16 (c) to pursue, with due regard to the national interest, the Philippine  
17 commitment to international conventions, protection of wildlife and their  
18 habitats; and  
19 (d) to initiate or support scientific studies on the conservation of biological  
20 diversity;

21 WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 6147, Section 1 provides: "It is hereby declared that the  
22 *pithecopaga jefferyi* commonly known as the monkey-eating Eagle shall be a protected bird in  
23 the Philippines";

24 WHEREAS, the *Manila Bulletin* on 23 April 2015 reported that the illegal cutting of  
25 trees, slash and burn (*kaingin*), charcoal making, and other activities destructive to forests  
26 continue to prevail in Samar Island;

27 WHEREAS, the news quoted an appeal from the Department of Environment and  
28 Natural Resources (DENR) in Eastern Visayas for the public to help the government stop such  
29 activities to preserve the habitat of the country's national bird, the Philippine Eagle;

1           WHEREAS, the presence of the Philippine eagle in Samar forests, which the DENR said  
2 is an indication of the area's rich biodiversity, is threatened by continuous deforestation;

3           WHEREAS, local governments should be empowered to implement, in partnership with  
4 concerned agencies, integrated conservation programs for the protection of wildlife, including  
5 the Philippine eagle;

6           WHEREAS, Congress must intensify existing environmental laws to ensure the  
7 compliance of all local governments and concerned agencies;

8           WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct  
9 the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the report that  
10 Philippine eagle habitats in Samar Island are in peril.

Adopted,

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
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/ctr