

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

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SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 1380

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ASSISTANCE BEING EXTENDED BY THE PHILIPPINE GOVERNMENT TO AID THOUSANDS OF STRANDED ROHINGYA BOAT PEOPLE PURSUANT TO OUR COMMITMENTS UNDER THE 1951 CONVENTION RELATING TO THE STATUS OF REFUGEES AND THE 1967 PROTOCOL

WHEREAS, Article 31 (1) of the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees provides that "The Contracting States shall not impose penalties, on account of their illegal entry or presence, on refugees who, coming directly from a territory where their life or freedom was threatened in the sense of Article 1, enter or are present in their territory without authorization, provided they present themselves without delay to the authorities and show good cause for their illegal entry or presence.";

WHEREAS, members of the Burmese minority group called the Rohingya continue to face humanitarian crisis, as thousands remain stranded at sea after fleeing persecution;

WHEREAS, described as among the world's least wanted, the Rohingya were labeled by the United Nations as one of the world's most persecuted minorities imposed with oppressive restrictions, denied of citizenships, and suffered from human rights violations since the late 1970s;

WHEREAS, there is a need to inquire into the humanitarian measures our government is extending to the Rohingya boat people as a state party to relevant instruments, such as the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, That the Philippine Senate directs the appropriate Senate committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the assistance being extended by the Philippine government to aid thousands of stranded Rohingya boat people pursuant to our commitments under the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol

Adopted,


MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID
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