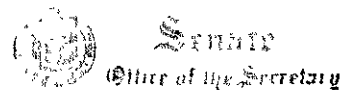


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



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SENATE
P.S.R. No. 1404

RECEIVED BY: *J.*

Introduced by Senator SONNY M. ANGARA

RESOLUTION
URGING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE/S TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN
AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATE AND CONDITION OF MARINE
POLLUTION IN THE COUNTRY AS WELL AS COMPLIANCE WITH THE
SEVERAL STATUTES AND INTERNATIONAL TREATIES AND CONVENTIONS
ON THE PROTECTION AND CONSERVATION OF ENVIRONMENT

WHEREAS, in a study published in the February 2015 edition of the research journal *Science*, it was found out that poor waste management and littering across the globe added approximately eight (8) million metric tons (MMT) of plastic to the ocean in 2010, thereby posing significant dangers to marine life;

WHEREAS, the same study pointed out that the Philippines ranked third (3rd) among countries with most plastic wastes dumped into the sea with an estimated 0.28 to 0.75 MMT of plastic wastes, behind China and Indonesia with an estimated 1.32 to 3.53 MMT and 0.48 to 1.29 MMT of plastic wastes, respectively;

WHEREAS, the researchers have warned that with the expected continued increase in the population and increased per capita consumption associated with economic growth, our wastes will continuously grow and absent waste management infrastructure improvements, the cumulative quantity of plastic waste available to enter the marine environment from land is predicted to increase by an order of magnitude by 2025;

WHEREAS, Article II, Sections 15 and 16 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution expressly provides that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them as well as advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature;

WHEREAS, in relation to its international obligation, the Philippines is also a signatory or a party to a number of international treaties and conventions all of which aims to protect and conserve the environment including the United Nations (UN) Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development, UN Framework Conventions on Climate Change, Conventions to Combat Biodiversity and Desertification, 1997 Kyoto Protocol, among others;

WHEREAS, the Philippine legislature has also enacted several laws that intend to promote, protect and preserve the environment. Among the statutes passed include Presidential Decree (PD) Nos. 1151 or the Philippine Environmental Policy and 1152 or the Philippine Environmental Code, PD No. 1586 or the Philippine Environmental Impact Statement System, Republic Act (RA) No. 8749 or the Clean Air Act of 1999, RA No. 9003 or the Philippine Ecological Solid Waste Management Act of 2004, RA No. 9275 or the Philippine Clean Water Act of 2004, RA No. 9512 or the Environmental Awareness and Education Act of 2008 and RA No. 9729 or the Climate Change Act of 2009;

WHEREAS, being an archipelagic country, the Philippines have a vast coastline and a number of bodies of water rich in natural resources which millions of Filipinos depend on that we have yet to tap or fully utilize, hence bolstering the need to protect and preserve them;

WHEREAS, in the landmark case of *Oposa, et. al. vs Factoran* (GR No. 101089, July 30, 1993), the Philippine Supreme Court upheld and articulated the twin concepts of inter-generational responsibility and inter-generational justice or the responsibilities of each generation as trustee and guardian of the environment for succeeding generations. The said case has espoused the crucial need to exercise prudence and foresight otherwise “the day would not be too far when all else would be lost not only for the present generation, but also for those to come – generations which stand to inherit nothing but parched earth incapable of sustaining life”;

NOW, WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Philippines, to direct the proper Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the state and condition of marine pollution in the country as well as compliance with the several statutes and international treaties and conventions on the protection and conservation of environment which has serious implication on nature and environment and in the marine industry of the Philippines.

Adopted,



SENATOR SONNY ANGARA