

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Third Regular Session

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SENATE54

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Poe

RESOLUTION

URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON BANKS, FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS AND CURRENCIES TO CONDUCT AN OMNIBUS INQUIRY AND ASSESSMENT, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON RELEVANT SECURITIES AND INVESTMENTS LAWS, REGULATIONS AND MEASURES, WITH THE END GOAL OF INTRODUCING REMEDIAL AMENDMENTS TO BETTER BATTLE DECEPTIVE INVESTMENT SCHEMES AND STOP INSIDIOUS NETWORKING SCAMS

WHEREAS, Section 5, Article II of the 1987 Constitution states that:

The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and **property**, and promotion of the **general welfare** are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy.

WHEREAS, just recently, a certain company named "One Dream Global Marketing, Inc." ("One Dream") based in Lipa City, Batangas caught the ire of indignant investors who were not paid their promised profits for their investments;

WHEREAS, reports state that complaints were filed by 18 investors with the Department of Justice against alleged One Dream's owner, Arnel Gacer, vice president Jobelle de Guzman, and other officers;

WHEREAS, complainants allege that One Dream deceived them through a "system profit scheme" in which investors were required to put in Php888.00 with the promise of a "pay-out" of Php1,300.00 after four days;

WHEREAS, complainants filed the syndicated estafa case due to One Dream's refusal to return their money after repeated demands;

WHEREAS, a perusal of One Dream's "Articles of Incorporation" would show that its primary purpose is the trading, buying and selling of various goods;

WHEREAS, One Dream has no permit to engage in selling and marketing investment products;

WHEREAS, One Dream started in May 2015 and suddenly stopped operations last 11 July 2015;

WHEREAS, a few days after the case of One Dream, the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) warned the public once more against investment scams – particularly against business entities "Freedom Life Advanced Global Prosperity Marketing Incorporated" (FLAG Prosperity), a Laguna-based firm, and Metro Manila-based "SUCCESS200 International Marketing Corporation", with operations in other parts of the country and overseas, both of which have no SEC authorization;

WHEREAS, a lot of Filipinos, with desire to earn money, are being lured by various "investment groups" – most commonly known as "networking" groups – with a promise of huge returns or profits;

WHEREAS, these "networking groups" urge their would-be investors by emphasizing the seeming lavish lifestyle of their "successful members" through their posts in social media showcasing their money, cars, watches, free trips or other material things;

WHEREAS, due to the strong appeal of the above marketing strategies of "networking groups," a lot of our countrymen are being persuaded to "invest";

WHEREAS, desiring to improve one's financial status and one's quality of living by investing one's hard-earned money is commendable and is beneficial not only to the investor but to the economy, but to prey on our countrymen through deceitful and unscrupulous means is simply wrong and the Government ought to step in the picture to ensure the protection of our countrymen's investments and dreams:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to urge the Senate Committee on Banks, Financial Institutions and Currencies to conduct an omnibus inquiry and assessment, in aid of legislation, on relevant securities and investment laws, regulations and measures, with the end goal of introducing remedial amendments to better battle deceptive investments and stop insidious networking scams.

Adopted,

GRACE POE