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SENATE
P.S. Res. No. 1456

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Introduced by SENATOR MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED SALE OF EXOTIC AND ENDANGERED ANIMALS IN THE GREATER MANILA AREA WITH THE END IN VIEW OF PROTECTING OUR WILDLIFE AND PUT AN END TO THE ILLEGAL TRADE OF ENDANGERED SPECIES

WHEREAS, Section 2 (a) of Republic Act 9147 also known as the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act states, "It shall be the policy of the State to conserve the country's wildlife resources and their habitats for sustainability. In the pursuit of this policy, this Act shall have the following objectives: to conserve and protect wildlife species and their habitats to promote ecological balance and enhance biological diversity x x x";

WHEREAS, recently, a number of exotic and endangered animal species such as Asian box turtles, a baby blue-naped parrot, Philippine sailfin lizards, an exotic species of pit vipers, hornbills and eagles were seized from a pet shop in Pasay City;

WHEREAS, said exotic and endangered animals were forced to fit in take-away plastic containers and boxes, which put the lives of the mentioned varied wildlife in peril;

WHEREAS, illegal wildlife trade is among the world's largest illegal trade, next to guns and drugs, and a big chunk of the global illegal wildlife trade takes place here in Asia with emphasis on Southeast Asia as having an increasing demand for illegal wildlife and it being the key supplier of wildlife products to the world;

WHEREAS, despite efforts made by authorities to apprehend illegal traders of threatened and endangered wildlife, the fact remains that illegal trading of endangered animals occur even in the most conspicuous places;

WHEREAS, there is a need to educate Filipinos especially in places where threatened and endangered wildlife are endemic on the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act as many of our people are ignorant of the law;

WHEREAS, there is a need to investigate this matter in order to institute further legislative measures that will effectively implement the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act and address this recurring issue;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved to direct the Senate Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and appropriate Senate committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the reported sale of exotic and endangered animals in the Greater Manila Area with the end in view of protecting our wildlife and put an end to the illegal trade of endangered species.

Adopted,



MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID