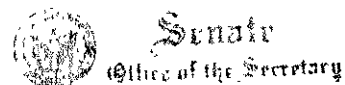


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)



15 AUG 19 P2:42

SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1512

RECEIVED BY: J

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE
TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,
ON THE REPORT THAT SUGAR SMUGGLING IS PREVALENT
IN THE MANILA INTERNATIONAL CONTAINER PORT

1 WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2 Section 5 states that: “The maintenance of peace
2 and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and the promotion of the general welfare
3 are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy”;

4 WHEREAS, the *Manila Bulletin* on 10 August 2015 reported that an alarming increase in
5 illegally imported sugar arriving at the Manila International Container Port (MICP) has been
6 recorded over the months of June and July;

7 WHEREAS, Sugar Anti-Smuggling Office (SASO) and the Sugar Alliance of the
8 Philippines (SAP) reportedly wrote President Aquino to express their serious concern about the
9 entry of smuggled sugar from Thailand to the Philippines in recent months;

10 WHEREAS, the groups claimed that the loading ship containing Thai sugar passed
11 through Thailand, Hong Kong, and China before it arrived in the Philippines;

12 WHEREAS, they further alleged that there have been attempts to use illegally imported
13 sugar, especially shipments coming from Xiamen, China, as a decoy to import illegal drugs;

14 WHEREAS, the groups reportedly suspect that the internal environment in the Bureau of
15 Customs (BOC) is one of the reasons behind the increasing number of sugar smuggling cases;

16 WHEREAS, Congress must heed the concerns raised by all stakeholders as it considers
17 Senate Bill No. 442, also known as the Anti-Smuggling Act, and Senate Bill No. 168, also
18 known as the Customs and Tariff Modernization Act;

1 WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct
2 the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the report that sugar
3 smuggling is prevalent in the Manila International Container Port.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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/tdr