

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

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SENATE P. S. R. No. 1547



Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE
TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,
ON THE COMMISSION ON AUDIT REPORT THAT SOME \$\mathbb{P}\sigma554\$ MILLION IN FUND
TRANSFERS MADE BY THE PHILIPPINE ATMOSPHERIC, GEOPHYSICAL, AND
ASTRONOMICAL SERVICES ADMINISTRATION REMAINED UNLIQUIDATED AS OF
THE END OF 2014

1 WHEREAS, the Constitution provides, in Article 2, Sections 27 and 28:

Section 27. The State shall maintain honesty and integrity in the public service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption.

Section 28. Subject to reasonable conditions prescribed by law, the State adopts and implements a policy of full public disclosure of all its transactions involving public interest.

WHEREAS, state auditors claimed in a recently released report that the Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration (Pagasa) has not been able to monitor the fund transfers and the submission of liquidation reports by implementing agencies in 2014;

WHEREAS, the Commission on Audit (COA) said that this resulted in the accumulation of some \$\pm\$354.09 million in unliquidated fund transfers under the account of the weather bureau, aging from one to three years;

WHEREAS, the unliquidated funds included:

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- \$\pm\$340 million allocated to the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) for the construction of the Pagasa National Meteorological Climate Center (NMCC) in Quezon City and three Doppler radar buildings in Iloilo, Zamboanga, and Palawan;
- 18 ₱13.44 million disbursed to the Advance Science and Technology Institute 19 (ASTI) for the supply, delivery, installation, testing, calibration, integration, and commissioning 20 of 28 units of automatic weather stations;
- 21 \$\mathbb{P}650,416\$ disbursed to regional offices of the Department of Science and 22 Technology (DOST), the parent agency of Pagasa;

WHEREAS, all government agencies must be responsible for funds allocated to them, and must diligently require utilization or liquidation reports from implementing agencies for all funds they disburse;

WHEREAS, Congress, through relevant legislation, must ensure that Pagasa will adhere to COA guidelines, especially amid the passage of Senate Bill No. 2834, also known as the Pagasa Modernization Bill, on third and final reading;

WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the Commission on Audit report that some \$\mathbb{2}354\$ million in fund transfers made by the Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical, and Astronomical Services Administration remained unliquidated as of the end of 2014.

Adopted,

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAG

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