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SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Third Regular Session

SENATE 1557 P. S. R. No.

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RUCENIDES

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORT THAT #113 MILLION IN EXPENSES OF THE PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION ON GOOD GOVERNMENT WERE UNACCOUNTED FOR IN 2014

1 WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 28 provides: "Subject to reasonable 2 conditions prescribed by law, the State adopts and implements a policy of full public disclosure 3 of all its transactions involving public interest";

4 WHEREAS, the Philippine Star on 15 August 2015 reported that the Presidential 5 Commission on Good Government (PCGG) has failed to account for over \$2.540 million 6 (#113.616 million) in undocumented expenses incurred in 2014 and charged against the 7 recovered ill-gotten wealth of the Marcos family;

8 WHEREAS, the news cited the Commission on Audit (COA) report, which said such 9 expenses would be disallowed in audit and that the PCGG would have to reimburse the amount if 10 it fails to submit documents and explain how the money was used;

11 WHEREAS, state auditors repeatedly said that for 2014, the undocumented transactions from the retained fund amounted to more than \$2,540,619.06 (P13,616,484.36) excluding 12 13 accrued interest and expenses;

14 WHEREAS, the COA claimed that the PCGG's balance in its foreign currency savings 15 account where recovered Marcos wealth amounting was kept, showed only \$6,753.783.29 by 31 16 December 2014, down from \$9,294,402.35 in 1 January 2014;

17 WHEREAS, Congress must strengthen mechanisms for the disbursement of sequestered 18 funds and ensure the transparent and judicious use of funds;

19 WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct 20 the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the report that #113 21 million in expenses of the Presidential Commission on Good Government were unaccounted for 22 in 2014.

Adopted,

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANT