



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

15 SEP -7 P4 01

SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1568

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 THE SUPPLY OF FISH IS DWINDLING IN
NEGROS AND ALL OVER THE COUNTRY

1 WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 16 provides: "The State shall protect and
2 advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm
3 and harmony of nature";

4 WHEREAS, Interaksyon.com, in an article posted on 5 August 2015, said that supply of
5 fish in Negros is dwindling, based on a study conducted by a researcher from the University of
6 Philippines Diliman (UP Diliman);

7 WHEREAS, the research of Remelyn I. de Ramos of the Marine Sciences Institute (MSI)
8 of UP Diliman revealed that the problem about the dwindling marine resources is even more
9 pronounced in the two provinces that comprise the newly-established Negros Island Region
10 (NIR);

11 WHEREAS, the study also showed that the same situation is happening all over the
12 country, threatening the livelihood of 60 percent of the entire population dependent on fisheries;

13 WHEREAS, the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) stated in its annual
14 report for 2013 that the tuna population has dwindled in such an alarming rate that it had to
15 implement closed season for the fish species in the waters of Zamboanga Peninsula on 1
16 December 2011 to 1 March 2012, and in the Visayan Sea and its surrounding waters on 15
17 November 2012 to 15 March 2013;

18 WHEREAS, a similar report published by the *Inquirer* on 16 March 2015 about the
19 dwindling tuna catch in Mindanao also claimed that aside from the dwindling supply of fish, the
20 fish are also getting smaller in size and weight;

21 WHEREAS, the government should protect the quality of marine life, especially those
22 harnessed as food source;

1 WHEREAS, the Congress, through relevant legislation, should ensure protection of the
2 marine environment;

3 WHEREAS, in the exercise of its oversight function, the Congress should monitor the
4 implementation of existing environmental laws;

5 WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct
6 the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the report that the
7 supply of fish is dwindling in Negros and all over the country.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
78