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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1593

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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 COMMISSION ON AUDIT ORDERED THE PALAWAN
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT TO RETURN ₱35 MILLION IN BONUSES UNLAWFULLY
GIVEN TO ITS PERSONNEL IN 2014

1 WHEREAS, the Constitution Article 2, Section 27, provides: “The State shall maintain
2 honesty and integrity in the public service and take positive and effective measures against graft
3 and corruption”;

4 WHEREAS, Rappler.com in 13 September 2015 reported that the Commission on Audit
5 (COA) ordered the Palawan provincial government to return ₱35 million in bonuses unlawfully
6 given to its personnel in 2014;

7 WHEREAS, state auditors claimed that the provincial government released performance
8 enhancement incentives (PEI) worth ₱40,000 to all officials and regular employees of the
9 province, in violation of a Department of Budget and Management (DBM) circular, which
10 limited PEI to ₱5,000 for all classes, without exception;

11 WHEREAS, the COA revealed that the payment of PEI in 2014 was granted to 1,030
12 officials and employees, resulting to an overpayment of ₱35 million;

13 WHEREAS, Congress, through relevant legislation, must provide for effective measures
14 to ensure that local government units comply with national policies in granting fringe benefits to
15 their personnel;

16 WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct
17 the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the report that the
18 Commission on Audit ordered the Palawan provincial government to return ₱35 million in
19 bonuses unlawfully given to its personnel in 2014.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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