SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

Third Regular Session



SENATE

*15 OCT 28 P4:06

P.S. Res. No. <u>1630</u>

KECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE, AGRICULTURE AND FOOD, AND OTHER APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE THREATENED DISPLACEMENT OF SOME ONE MILLION FARMERS DUE TO THE EL NIÑO PHENOMENON

WHEREAS, the Associated Labor Unions (ALU) warned the public that around 1 million farmers could lose their source of livelihood should the El Niño Phenomenon intensifies in the coming months;

WHEREAS, said prognosis was derived by the ALU from the Bureau of Agricultural Statistics, which said that there is a .37 percent decline in the agriculture industry affecting the farming and fishing subsectors during the second quarter of the year mainly due to the prolonged drought being experienced in the country;

WHEREAS, unemployment in the agriculture sector during the mentioned period surged to 755,000 and according to the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomic Services Administration (PAGASA) the El Niño Phenomenon is currently affecting 58% of the country and it could exaggerate to 85% come the first quarter of 2016;

WHEREAS, there is a need to inquire on the welfare of threatened farmers during the prolonged drought so we may institute measures that will help them address their temporary unemployment;

WHEREAS, realistic mechanisms should be in place to reduce the negative effects of El Niño and ensure that our farmers have a continuous source of income during the horrid dry spell.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that the Philippine Senate directs the Senate Committee on Climate Change, Agriculture and Food, and other appropriate Senate committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, into the threatened displacement of some one million farmers due to the El Niño Phenomenon.

Adopted,

