

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
THIRD REGULAR SESSION)

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SENATE

INTRODUCED BY

P.S.R.NO. 1644

INTRODUCED BY **SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO**

RESOLUTION

URGING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALLEGED *LAGLAG BALA* OR *TANIM BALA* SCHEME AT NINOY AQUINO INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (NAIA) AND MAJOR AIRPORTS WITH THE END VIEW OF REVIEWING, AMENDING AND FORMULATING AIRPORT SECURITY POLICIES, RULES, REGULATION AND LAWS

WHEREAS, the Office for Transportation Security (OTS) is the single authority responsible for the security of the transportation systems of the country, including but not limited to CIVIL AVIATION by ensuring that Annex 17 to the convention on international civil aviation and the national civil aviation security programmed (NCASP) are implemented.¹

WHEREAS, the Philippine National Police Aviation Security Group (PNP AvSec Group) is responsible in securing all the country's airports against offensive and terroristic acts that threaten civil aviation, in exercising operational control and supervision over all agencies involved in airport security operations, and enforce all laws and regulations relative to air travel protection and safety to all domestic and international airports in the Philippines.²

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10591 or the Comprehensive Firearms and Ammunition Regulations Act penalizes unlawful possession of ammunition.

WHEREAS, there has been numerous report regarding the alleged planting of bullets in luggage and bags of airport passengers at Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) and other major airports. It was tagged as the *Laglag Bala* or *Tanim Bala* Scheme.

WHEREAS, it has been further alleged that the *Laglag Bala* or *Tanim Bala* Scheme is being used by airport personnel and their cohorts to extort money from the unsuspecting travelers, be it foreigners, Overseas Filipino Workers, or Philippine nationals in general.

¹ Mandate of the Office for Transportation Security

² Section 35 of Republic Act No. 6975 or the Department of Interior and Local Government Act of 1990

WHEREAS, Gloria Ortinez, 56 years old and an OFW for almost twenty years, was arrested and prevented from leaving the country for Hongkong after the Airport Security personnel at NAIA Terminal 2 claimed to have found a bullet inside her bag.

WHEREAS, on the same day that Gloria Ortinez was arrested, a Japanese national, Kazunobu Sakamoto, was charged with illegal possession of ammunition when bullets were also found in his luggage.

WHEREAS, the PNP AvSec Group said that during their investigation they failed to prove that there are actual airport employees involved in the supposed planting of bullets in the luggage of the unsuspecting passengers.

WHEREAS, despite such pronouncement of PNP AvSec Group, there is a growing number of incidents of ammunitions found inside the luggage of airport passengers.

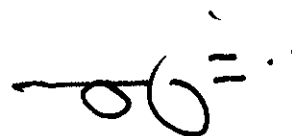
WHEREAS, from January to November this year, the PNP AvSec group apprehended 30 people for having bullets in their luggage, an increase of 160% from incidents for the same period last year while the Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA) recorded five alleged cases in the past two weeks.

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to look into the alleged new scheme as this has been an international embarrassment for the country and detrimental to our millions of OFW who day in and day out flew to other countries contributing to our growing economy.

WHEREAS, it is necessary to determine the persons or syndicate responsible and how they conduct their operations for their *Laglag Bala* or *Tanim Bala* Scheme to find out possible loopholes in airport security policies, rules, regulations and laws.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to urge the proper Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the alleged *Laglag Bala* or *Tanim Bala* Scheme at Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) and major airports with the end view of reviewing, amending and formulating Airport Security policies, rules, regulation and laws

Adopted,



JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO
Senator