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OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)



Senate
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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1686

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE
TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,
ON THE REPORT THAT HUNGER AMONG FILIPINO FAMILIES WORSENERD IN THE
THIRD QUARTER OF 2015 ACCORDING TO THE RECENT SURVEY OF THE SOCIAL
WEATHER STATIONS

1 WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 13, Section 1, provides: "The Congress shall give
2 highest priority to the enactment of measures that protect and enhance the right of all the people
3 to human dignity, reduce social, economic, and political inequalities, and remove cultural
4 inequities by equitably diffusing wealth and political power for the common good",

5 WHEREAS, the *Philippine Star* on 3 November 2015 reported that the number of
6 Filipino families who experienced involuntary hunger rose to 3.5 million in the third quarter of
7 the year;

8 WHEREAS, the *Star* was quoting the Social Weather Stations (SWS) September 2015
9 survey, which found that 15.7 percent of respondents or an estimated 3.5 million families
10 experienced "involuntary hunger" at least once in the past three months;

11 WHEREAS, the latest hunger rate is three points higher than the 12.7 percent (2.8 million
12 families) recorded in the second quarter;

13 WHEREAS, the SWS claimed that 14.1 percent or about 3.1 million families said they
14 experienced "moderate hunger" and 1.6 percent or an estimated 361,000 families said they
15 suffered from "severe hunger";

16 WHEREAS, the survey used "moderate hunger" to refer to those who suffered from
17 involuntary hunger "only once" or "a few times" in the past three months and "severe hunger" to
18 those who experienced or felt hunger "often" or "always" in the last three months;

19 WHEREAS, by geographic area, the SWS claimed that hunger was highest in Mindanao
20 at 21.7 percent (an estimated 1.1 million families), Metro Manila at 18.3 percent (estimated
21 553,000 families), balance Luzon at 14.7 percent (an estimated 1.4 million families), and the
22 Visayas at 9.3 percent (an estimated 399,000 families);

1 WHEREAS, the survey reportedly used face-to-face interviews of 1,200 adults
2 nationwide, with a sampling error margins of plus or minus three percentage points for national
3 percentages and plus or minus six percentage points each for Metro Manila, balance Luzon, the
4 Visayas and Mindanao;

5 WHEREAS, the government should assess the efficiency of ongoing programs relating to
6 hunger and poverty alleviation;

7 WHEREAS, Congress should strengthen legislation, with the goal of ensuring that
8 government social welfare programs and services are effectively managed and implemented;

9 WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct
10 the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the report that hunger
11 among Filipino families worsened in the third quarter of 2015 according to the recent survey of
12 the Social Weather Stations.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
RP