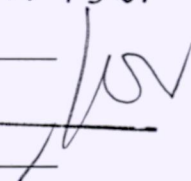




SENATE
P. S. Res. No. 326

'17 MAR 14 P3:07

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

RECEIVED BY: 

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON ACCOUNTABILITY OF PUBLIC OFFICERS AND INVESTIGATIONS (BLUE RIBBON), AND OTHER APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE TRUTH AND ACCURACY OF THE ALLEGATIONS AGAINST CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER CESAR MONTANO OF THE TOURISM PROMOTIONS BOARD (TPB)

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

WHEREAS, the Constitution also states in Article II, Section 28: “Subject to reasonable conditions prescribed by law, the State adopts and implements a policy of full public disclosure of all its transactions involving public interest”;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 3019 or the Anti-Graft and Corrupt Practices Act provides: “It is the policy of the Philippine Government, in line with the principle that a public office is a public trust, to repress certain acts of public officers and private persons alike which constitute graft or corrupt practices or which may lead thereto”;

WHEREAS, on March 1, 2017, the Presidential Action Center received a letter from the employees of the Tourism Promotions Board (TPB) formalizing their concerns and complaints against board Chief Operating Officer (COO) Cesar Montano;¹

WHEREAS, employees of the TPB listed twenty four (24) irregularities and indiscretions allegedly committed by COO Cesar Montano;²

WHEREAS, the excerpt of the complaint cited his incompetence, “It can be observed that during meetings with the TPB Management Committee and Board Meetings his level of retention and absorption is very low. He has difficulty understanding presentations, flow charts, and figures. Instead he wants visuals. He would leave the meetings even if not adjourned”;³

¹ The Philippine Star Website, <http://www.philstar.com/headlines/2017/03/12/1680385/tourism-promotions-board-employees-accuse-cesar-montano-irregularities>

² Ibid

³ Ibid

WHEREAS, employees cited that COO Cesar Montano allegedly entered into multimillion peso deals where one of the contracts was for a concert that cost P11.2M on January 18, 2017 where he performed as guest singer with his nieces;⁴

WHEREAS, among the allegations raised by the employees was that COO Cesar Montano hired his own staff including stuntman, gardener, personal assistant, family friend, and relatives and their salaries range from P14,000 to P48,000;⁵

WHEREAS, they also raised concerns against relatives of COO Cesar Montano, who misused funds of the Department of Tourism by demanding reimbursements of expenses and vacationing during supposed official business trips;⁶

WHEREAS, the Congress is accountable on reviewing the laws on graft and corruption and should ensure that malfeasance, misfeasance and charges of graft and corruption in the government are immediately addressed;

WHEREAS, as a public interest, the transparency of the transactions should be disclosed to satisfy the public's Constitutional right to information;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved to direct the committee on accountability (blue ribbon), and other appropriate senate committees to investigate, in aid of legislation, the truth and accuracy of the allegations against Chief Operating Officer Cesar Montano of the Tourism Promotions Board (TPB).

Adopted,


MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY
Senator

⁴ Ibid

⁵ Ibid

⁶ Ibid