

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'19 OCT -1 P 6:17

SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 156

RECEIVED BY

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel "Migz" F. Zubiri

RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND THE SUGAR REGULATORY ADMINISTRATION TO MITIGATE THE CURRENT SITUATION OF THE PHILIPPINE SUGAR INDUSTRY BY CONVERTING THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA'S TARIFF-RATE QUOTA (TRQ) ALLOCATIONS FOR LOCAL INDUSTRIAL CONSUMERS

WHEREAS, climate change is taking its toll on the Philippine sugar industry and has affected the planting and milling seasons of sugar as well as the domestic production;

WHEREAS, the negative effect of climate change on the Philippine sugar industry is exacerbated by the El Niño phenomenon this year contributing to the low domestic production of sugar;

WHEREAS, annual Philippine consumption of sugar is estimated at Two Million Four Hundred Thousand (2,400,000) metric tons while the projected domestic production of sugar this year is at Two Million Ninety-Six Thousand (2,096,000) metric tons while the allocation for the US Tariff-Rate Quota (TRQ) also called as the "A" Sugar is Five percent (5%) of our domestic production which is equivalent to One Hundred Five Thousand (105,000) metric tons;

WHEREAS, if we avail of the US TRQ, this will leave us with One Million Nine Hundred Ninety-One Thousand (1,991,000) metric tons available for domestic consumption and short of more than Four Hundred Thousand (400,000) metric tons which the country has to import to fill the domestic consumption;

WHEREAS, with the current domestic price of sugar at Php1,500. per bag and Philippine export to the US under the TRQ is at Php1,100. per bag, this in effect will result to the domestic consumers subsidizing the price of sugar export to the US;

WHEREAS, this will not be the first time that the Philippines will not avail of the US TRQ due to lower domestic production of sugar, there were instances wherein we did not export or at least reduced our sugar export to the US upon proper representation with the US Department of Agriculture and Trade Representative;

WHEREAS, if we convert the US TRQ which is equivalent to One Hundred Five Thousand (105,000) metric tons of sugar for our local industrial consumers we can satisfy the demand of our local manufacturers and processors and we may no longer import for their needs:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to urge the Department of Agriculture and the Sugar Regulatory Administration to mitigate the current situation of the Philippine Sugar Industry by converting the United States of America's Tariff-Rate Quota (TRQ) allocations of sugar for local industrial consumers.

Adopted,



Juan Miguel "Migz" F. Zubiri