


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

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**SENATE**  
PSR No. 197

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*Introduced by Senator Magsaysay Jr.*

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**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC SERVICES, ON TRADE AND COMMERCE, AND ON PUBLIC ORDER, TO JOINTLY CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE NECESSITY OF AFFORDING CONSUMER PROTECTION TO CELLULAR MOBILE TELEPHONE SERVICE (CMTS) SUBSCRIBERS AGAINST ALLEGED UNFAIR TRADE PRACTICES AND OF ADOPTING MEASURES TO PROMOTE THEIR SAFETY AND SECURITY AGAINST CRIMINAL ELEMENTS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

**Whereas**, communication technology has never been so advanced than in the last decade, with the mobile telephone sector in the forefront of this technological revolution;

**Whereas**, the large segment of our population comprising the millions of Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) subscribers, by reason of necessity and convenience, spend a considerable part of their income for their average or state-of-the-art cellular telephone handset and their subscriptions to CMTS which enable them to avail of local and international text-messaging and voice-call services;

**Whereas**, deserving a policy review is the alleged unfair industry practice of charging CMTS subscribers on a minimum one-minute per pulse basis, rather than the six-second per pulse system practiced and adopted in other countries and likewise adopted for implementation in the Philippines through the NTC Memorandum Circular No. 13-6-2000 dated June 16, 2000, the implementation of which has been enjoined by a Regional Trial Court;

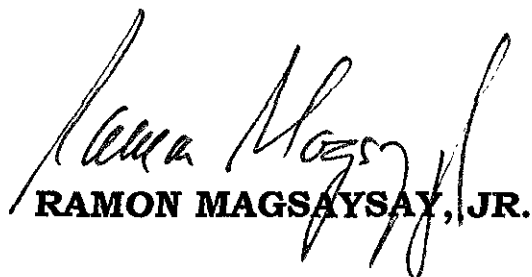
**Whereas**, there is a continuing surge in the rate of occurrences of cellular telephone theft attributable to the lucrative "second hand" cellular telephone market, with a reported 25,380 incidents in 2003 according to the National Telecommunications Commission (NTC), which also result in injury or death to the CMTS subscribers;

**Whereas**, the millions of CMTS subscribers equally deserve protection against any unfair trade practice and the promotion of their safety and security against criminal elements through measures which would render stolen cellular telephones unusable and inoperational utilizing a centralized nationwide "whitelist" that would automatically recognize the International Mobile Equipment Identification (IMEI) of each and every cellular phone and

allow its use or deny its accessibility and use if previously reported lost or stolen; *Now Therefore be it.*

**RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, to direct the Senate Committees on Public Services, on Trade and Commerce, and on Public Order, to jointly conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, into the necessity of affording consumer protection against alleged unfair trade practices to Cellular Mobile Telephone Service (CMTS) subscribers and the adoption of measures to promote their safety and security against criminal elements, and for other purposes.

Adopted,

  
**RAMON MAGSAYSAY, JR.**