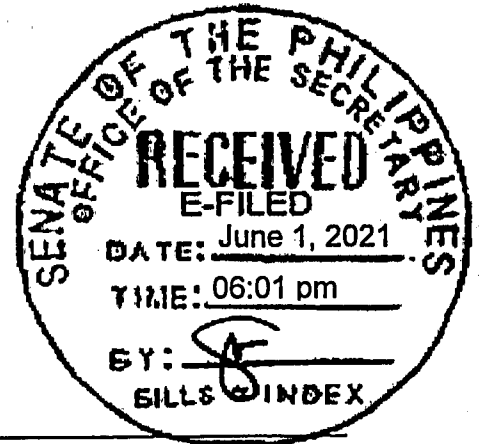


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )

SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 738



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INTRODUCED BY: SENATOR EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO

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**A RESOLUTION  
DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT  
FURTHER INQUIRY ON THE GOVERNMENT'S EFFORTS TO ADDRESS THE  
PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVES OF THE NEW CENTENNIAL WATER SOURCE –  
KALIWA DAM PROJECT AND TO RESOLVE THE CONCERNS AFFECTING  
THE FURTHERANCE OF SAID PUBLIC WORKS PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the Government's undertaking of public works essentially presumes an intention to address a public interest that is aligned with the plans of the State to meet a certain need of the people or to obtain a betterment of their condition, which at times is impacted by urgency.

WHEREAS, the pursuance by the State of public works projects and the necessary use of the nation's resources therefor are most importantly guided by the principles specified in Article XII of the Philippine Constitution.

WHEREAS, Article XII of the Philippine Constitution in guiding the country's interests in the *National Economy and Patrimony* encompasses all concerns regarding the production, distribution and consumption of goods and services.

WHEREAS, the very first principle in Article XII of the Constitution opens with an emphasis on the equitable distribution of opportunities, income, and wealth.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> The opening part of the first sentence of Section 1 of Article XII of the Philippine Constitution states: "*The goals of the national economy are a more equitable distribution of opportunities, income and wealth; a sustained increase in*

**WHEREAS**, the New Centennial Water Source – Kaliwa Dam Project is a public works project intended by the Government to address the long-experienced, year-in and year-out water shortages that negatively impact the populations of and economic activities in Metro Manila and its suburbs in increasingly crisis proportions, usually during summer time, considering that the existing Angat-Ipo-La Mesa Dams Water System at those times singularly experience critical level challenges.

**WHEREAS**, as is often seen in many public works projects of the Government, there arise contending rights and competing interests of various sectors involved or affected by the undertaking of the project, and the New Centennial Water Source – Kaliwa Dam Project is not an exception.

**WHEREAS**, a number of meetings and conferences, including hearings conducted by this Honorable Chamber of Congress, have elucidated differing concerns particular to the special interests of various groups – government and non-government, national and local groups, State agencies with differing specialties, local population affected and external population to benefit, scientists and other technical experts, economists and businessmen, politicians and leaders in government.

**WHEREAS**, it is reported that in some occasions, but definitely not during the inquiries convened and held by this Honored Chamber of Congress, a few certain meetings which should have intended a unification of purpose in the evaluation of hierarchies of objectives, setting of priorities, and identification of solutions and remedies, instead resulted in animated confrontations, and sadly, in some actuations, even walk-outs.

**WHEREAS**, such meetings have also revealed conflicts of claims regarding situational premises and appreciations of facts, regarding compliances to laws, rules, procedures and legal requirements, regarding decisions and resolutions and even the decision-making process itself.

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*the amount of goods and services produced by the nation for the benefit of the people; and an expanding productivity as the key to raising the quality of life for all, especially the underprivileged."*

**WHEREAS**, these conflicts of claims have arisen between public groups affected, or even within the same public groups, and in a few instances between government departments, agencies and offices, or even within the same department or agency.

**WHEREAS**, the overlying purpose of the New Centennial Water Source – Kaliwa Dam Project continues, and it persists unresolved.

**WHEREAS**, there appears to be a need, with urgency, to conduct a further inquiry that will review the New Centennial Water Source – Kaliwa Dam Project, and that will focus more on its purpose and objectives.

**WHEREAS**, it is recommended that the further inquiry will obtain proper representation from all stakeholders; determine conflicts in claims; identify and clarify areas of concern – present and future – and fully inform and engage the interested parties about said concerns; identify corrective administration where legal procedures are in question; explore supplemental legislation; discuss alternative remediation and resolutions within the framework of the Constitution and Philippine laws; recommend measures to specify and concretize realistic benefits and reliefs for all affected parties; but all behind a common and unified intention to address the purpose and objectives of the project and to resolve the problem it seeks to meet while striking a balance between and among the competing interests of the parties and thereby adhering to the guidance of Section 1 of Article XII of the Philippine Constitution.

**WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE**, as it is hereby resolved, to direct the appropriate Senate Committees to conduct further inquiry on the Government's efforts to address the purpose and objectives of the New Centennial Water Source – Kaliwa Dam Project, and to resolve the concerns affecting the furtherance of said public works project.

*Adopted,*

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'E. Pacquiao', written in a cursive, stylized script.

**EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO**