

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



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SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 207

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND DANGEROUS DRUGS AND OTHER APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALLEGED INCREASING KIDNAPPING INCIDENTS AND RECENT SPATE OF OTHER CRIMINAL ACTIVITIES, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF STRENGTHENING PEACE AND ORDER MECHANISM IN THE COUNTRY

1 **WHEREAS**, Article II, Section 5 of the Constitution provides that the State shall
2 promote "the maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and
3 property, and promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all
4 the people of the blessings of democracy";

5 **WHEREAS**, Article 267 of the Revised Penal Code on Kidnapping and Serious
6 Illegal Detention states that "any private individual who shall kidnap or detain another,
7 or in any other manner deprive him of his liberty, shall suffer the penalty of reclusion
8 perpetua to death: If the kidnapping or detention shall have lasted more than five
9 days";

10 **WHEREAS**, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has estimated that
11 more than 10,000 people are kidnapped, often unreported for fear of retaliation,
12 throughout the world every year;¹

13 **WHEREAS**, there have been observed spike on incidents about kidnappings,
14 abductions and disappearances in the country involving members of the Filipino-
15 Chinese communities, women, Chinese POGO workers, among others reported in the
16 media;

¹ [UNODC launches manual of best practices to counter kidnapping](#)

1 **WHEREAS**, the Philippine Chinese Chamber of Commerce and Industry Inc.
2 (PCCCI), reported that the kidnapping cases targeting Chinese Filipinos in the last ten
3 (10) days have surged to fifty-six (56) and mostly in the southern Metro cities of
4 Pasay, Parañaque, Makati and Taguig. It is also alarming that most of these
5 kidnappers are reportedly foreigners and Chinese in particular;²

6 **WHEREAS**, PNP reported that there were only 27 kidnapping cases from
7 January to September this year with 15 POGO-related, 11 kidnap-for-ransom (KFR)
8 cases and 1 casino-related case;

9 **WHEREAS**, the Philippine National Police (PNP) have claimed that many of the
10 abduction reports being sent to them involved older cases that have already been
11 acted upon by their investigators, and have requested PCCCI to provide supporting
12 evidence to substantiate their claims;

13 **WHEREAS**, with the conflicting claims, it becomes necessary for the PNP and
14 the National Police Commission to review the figures. It would also be helpful in setting
15 the record straight especially since kidnappings only make it to their public list of index
16 crimes when they are “complexed” or are committed with other crimes like murder,
17 robbery, among others so it would be easy for citizens to verify the actual incidents of
18 kidnappings being reported;

19 **WHEREAS**, abduction and torture are acts of cruelty that should be
20 condemned, and their perpetration should be nipped in the bud. In so doing, it would
21 also send a message to everyone that the Philippines is not a haven for undeterred
22 criminality, and that no one is above the law;

23 **WHEREAS**, these increasing incidents if left unaddressed may exacerbate the
24 state of fear, uneasiness and terror among Filipinos, and may undermine trust to
25 institutions;

26 **WHEREAS**, it is the duty of the government to act with urgency to put an end
27 to these alleged increasing kidnapping incidents and other criminal activities and
28 assure our people that the situations are within their control and work in full force to
29 maintain peace and order in the country;

² [Bust Chinese kidnap rings, biz group urges | Inquirer News](#)

1 **WHEREAS**, there is a need to prevent, investigate and counter kidnapping
2 through legal, institutional and operational technical assistance. Hence, it is imperative
3 that the Congress, through timely legislation, ensure that general public are keep safe
4 from these crimes;

5 **WHEREAS**, the legislative power of the Senate to conduct inquiries in aid of
6 legislation is indubitable. For the body to enact sensible laws, it necessarily requires
7 for the Senate to be well-informed of the factual background behind intended
8 legislation. It is for this same reason that the Senate must now exercise this power
9 and mandate to determine whether the laws now written demand review and
10 amendment in order to ensure that they are not circumvented and transgressed;

11 **WHEREAS**, peace and order, and the safety and security of our citizens and
12 of those who are within the territorial jurisdiction of our country must be upheld and
13 protected. Our laws must be enforced for the general welfare, and they must apply
14 equally to all people who live, reside or merely sojourn in our country. And since both
15 citizens and aliens are bound by our laws, these same laws must be sufficient enough
16 to protect them and their welfare while they are within our territorial jurisdiction;

17 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY**
18 **THE SENATE**, to direct the Senate Committee on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs
19 and other appropriate Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation,
20 on the alleged increasing kidnapping incidents and recent spate of other criminal
21 activities, with the end in view of strengthening peace and order mechanism in the
22 country.

Adopted,


RAMON BONG REVILLA JR. *MB*