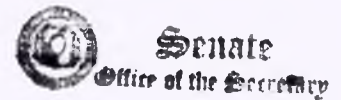


NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



23 JAN 11 P4 56

SENATE

P. S. Res. No. 423

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Loren B. Legarda

RESOLUTION
AFFIRMING THE DECLARATION BY THE NATIONAL HISTORICAL
COMMISSION OF THE PHILIPPINES OF CERTAIN PORTIONS OF THE
STA. ANA DISTRICT IN THE CITY OF MANILA AS AN IMPORTANT
HERITAGE ZONE AND
URGING THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT CONCERNED TO HELP IN
PRESERVING THESE AREAS THEREOF

WHEREAS, Article XIV, Section 15 of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall conserve, promote, and popularize the nation's historical and cultural heritage and resources as well as artistic creations;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10066, also known as the National Cultural Heritage Act of 2009, requires the National Historical Commission of the Philippines and the National Museum of the Philippines, together with the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, Housing and Land Use Regulatory Board and other concerned agencies, to designate heritage zones to protect the historical and cultural integrity of a geographic area;

WHEREAS, Section 13 of the law states that local government units who will be exercising main responsibility in the maintenance of these heritage zones shall strive for the adaptive reuse of cultural property and preservation of streets, parks, and monuments;

WHEREAS, citing its "unique streetscapes and riverscapes, as well as historic sites and structures including the church complex, open spaces like Plaza Hugo, heritage houses, civic buildings and shops", the NHCP issued Resolution No. 1 on 12 May 2014 which declares a portion of Sta. Ana in Manila as a heritage zone;

WHEREAS, the said resolution also provides that a buffer zone be maintained extending 10 meters from the center of all roads forming the perimeter of the core area, on the condition that all new developments surrounding the church outside the core and buffer zones within the 200-meter radius shall conform to the prescribed building character, height, and setback with reference to the Sta. Ana Church;

WHEREAS, even before the issuance by the NHCP of its Board Resolution, the City Government of Manila had issued City Ordinance No. 8244 on 22 September 2011 which classifies Sta. Ana district as a Histo-Cultural Heritage Overlay Zone;

WHEREAS, despite the existence of these resolutions, there is a continuing threat to the preservation of the historical integrity of Sta. Ana due to uncontrolled urbanization, imperiling both its buffer and core zones;

WHEREAS, there is a need to strengthen existing rules and guidelines and improve cooperation among various agencies to ensure the preservation of these heritage zones;

WHEREAS, last 1 December 2014, Senate Resolution No. 1043 was issued in the Sixteenth Congress affirming the declaration by the National Historical Commission of the Philippines of certain portions of the Sta. Ana district in the City of Manila as an important heritage zone;

WHEREAS, despite such Resolution, a 31-storey condominium has now been built within the Histo-Cultural Heritage Overlay Zone of the district, after the Manila City Council upheld the exemption of the property developers from the local zoning laws;

WHEREAS, in 2019, a presumed Important Cultural Property was demolished without properly secured permits;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to further affirm the declaration by the National Historical Commission of the Philippines of certain portions of the Sta. Ana district in the City of Manila as an important heritage zone;

RESOLVED FINALLY, to urge the proper local government unit concerned to fulfill their responsibility in preserving the remaining areas in the City of Manila's important heritage zone.

Adopted,


LOREN LEGARDA