

## RESOLUTION

## AUTHORIZING SENATOR JOKER P. ARROYO TO ARGUE THE CASE OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES IN THE PETITION FOR A WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS FILED BY NATIONAL SECURITY ADVISER NORBERTO B. GONZALES BEFORE THE SUPREME COURT

WHEREAS, National Security Adviser Norberto B. Gonzales was cited in contempt and ordered detained on 21 September 2005 by the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee for his refusal to answer questions relevant to the inquiry pursuant to P.S. Resolution No. 336 entitled "Resolution Directing the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Public Accountability to Conduct an Inquiry, In Aid of Legislation, on the Cancelled 2005 Venable Contract";

WHEREAS, a Petition for a Writ of Habeas Corpus was filed before the Supreme Court by National Security Adviser Gonzales against Senator Joker P. Arroyo in his capacity as Chairman of the Committee on Accountability and Public Officers and Investigations (Blue Ribbon) and the Sergeant-At-Arms on 29 September 2005, docketed as G.R. No. 169638, and prayed "that the Court issue a Writ of Habeas Corpus directing the Sergeant-At-Arms of the Senate to produce the body of petitioner" and to "order the discharge of petitioner from detention or his release";

WHEREAS, the Supreme Court, on 4 October 2005, resolved to:

- "(a) ISSUE a WRIT OF HABEAS CORPUS;
- (b) REQUIRE the respondents to make a RETURN of the writ before this Court on Tuesday, 11 October 2005, at 1:00 p.m.;
- (c) SET this case for ORAL ARGUMENT on the same day, 11 October 2005, at 1:00 p.m., at the New Session Hall, New Supreme Court Building;
- (d) REQUIRE the Senate Blue Ribbon Committee to SUBMIT to the Court, on or before 12:00 noon of 10 October 2005, the transcripts of stenographic notes of the proceedings related to the testimony of herein petitioner Norberto B. Gonzales; and

(e) REQUIRE the respondents as well as the Office of the Solicitor General to file their respective COMMENTS on the petition, also on or before 12:00 noon of 10 October 2005.";

WHEREAS, in order to comply with the Resolution of the Supreme Court, there is a need for the Senate to orally argue its case on 11 October 2005 at 1:00 o'clock in the afternoon and that Senator Arroyo, being an eminent lawyer, can judiciously represent the Senate;

Now therefore: be it resolved by the Senate, as it hereby resolves to authorize Senator Joker P. Arroyo to argue the case of the Senate of the Philippines in the petition for a Writ of Habeas Corpus filed by National Security Adviser Norberto B. Gonzales before the Supreme Court.

Adopted,

Pangilinan Francis or