

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session

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SENATE

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P.S. Res. No. 676

## RECEIVED BY:

## Introduced by: Senator Raffy T. Tulfo

## RESOLUTION

## DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE OF THE SENATE TO UNDERTAKE AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALLEGED CONTINUED OPERATION OF E-SABONG IN THE PHILIPPINES

1 WHEREAS, Cockfighting or "Sabong" in local parlance, refers to an activity 2 which involves pairing off two roosters or gamecocks in an arena and betting on which 3 one will win. The term embraces cockfighting derby, pintakasi or tupada;

WHEREAS, online sabong or "E-Sabong" refers to the online, remote or off-site wagering or betting on live cockfighting matches, events, and/or activities streamed or broadcasted live from cockpit arena/s licensed or authorized by the local government units having jurisdiction thereof;

8 WHEREAS, under Republic Act No. 7160 or the Local Government Code of 1991 9 the Sangguniang Bayan of a local government unit has the power to authorize and 10 license the establishment, operation, and maintenance of cockpits, and regulate 11 cockfighting and commercial breeding of gamecocks. On the other hand, E-Sabong is 12 regulated by the Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR);

13 WHEREAS, PAGCOR's regulatory function with regard to E-Sabong is primarily 14 undertaken by the E-Sabong Licensing Department (ESLD). PAGCOR's regulatory 15 functions includes the development of the regulatory framework, processing of 16 applications, issuance of licenses to conduct E-Sabong operations, and other related 17 tasks; 1 WHEREAS, in May 2022, former President Rodrigo R. Duterte ordered the 2 suspension of online cockfighting operations in the Philippines and directed the 3 Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) to conduct a survey on the 4 negative impact of E- Sabong in the country;

5 WHEREAS, based on the outcome of the survey conducted by the DILG, 6 majority of the respondents were in favor of the suspension;

WHEREAS, Executive Order (EO) No.9, Series of 2022, was signed by President
Ferdinand R. Marcos, Jr. in December 28, 2022 directing the continued suspension of
all E-Sabong operations and auxiliary operations nationwide;

10 WHEREAS, despite the foregoing, it has been reported that there are still 11 entities conducting E-Sabong operations in the Philippines;

12 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved, To direct the appropriate 13 Senate Committee to conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, on the alleged 14 continued operation of E-Sabong in the Philippines, and into the possible violation of 15 EO No. 9, Series of 2022 or the Executive Order Directing the Continued Suspension 16 of Electronic Sabong Operations Nationwide.

Adopted,

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RAFFY T. TULFO Senator