


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

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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

P.S. RES. No. 921

Introduced by **SENATOR RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA**

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND DANGEROUS DRUGS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE ALLEGED RELENTLESS HARASSMENT BY LAW ENFORCEMENT UNITS TOWARDS THE PERYA OPERATORS AND WORKERS WITH THE END IN VIEW OF RECOMMENDING LEGISLATIVE MEASURES THAT WOULD ENSURE THE PROMOTION AND SAFEGUARDING THE RIGHTS AND DIGNITY OF THE PERYA INDUSTRY

WHEREAS, Section 5 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides under its principles, "The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy";

WHEREAS, last December 05, 2023, the office of Senator Ronald "Bato" Dela Rosa received a letter containing a position paper from the Perya Industry of the Philippines Association (PIPA), Inc. and its call for assistance and support for the legality of the PERYA Industry;

WHEREAS, the letter emphasizes that the most difficult challenge that the industry faces is the alleged relentless harassment by law enforcement units, which always resulted to the unwarranted warrantless arrests of their ordinary workers allegedly due to gambling activity inside the perya premises;

WHEREAS, PIPA claimed that perya operations are legitimate small-scale entrepreneur business entities working under legitimate licenses validly issued by appropriate local officials of the particular place where they operate;

WHEREAS, Presidential Decree 1602, known as a decree prescribing stiffer penalties on illegal gambling, does not include bingo games, gun shooting games, ball games, card games, and other colored games, which are mainly seen in the perya industry;

WHEREAS, PIPA alleged that there are some "Bagmen" who continuously harass and force the perya industry to pay their weekly so-called "S.O.P's" or else they will have to halt their operations. Worse, their failure to pay the "S.O.P" results in baseless warrantless arrest of the Perya workers;

WHEREAS, according to PIPA, despite the many harassment cases filed against the Perya workers, not a single case stood during the preliminary investigation stage, and these unfounded cases were dismissed for lack of probable cause and the failure to establish the acts that constitute the alleged offense of illegal gambling;

WHEREAS, PIPA worries that even though they have already secured the necessary permits to operate from their respective local government units and paid amusement taxes, they will still be unable to fully operate if they fail to pay the "S.O.P's" to some personnel of the PNP, which must be done on a weekly basis;

WHEREAS, while we know that those who are doing honest work must not be subjected to unwarranted harassment, it is all the worse when those who allegedly commit such acts of harassment are the very ones who have sworn to serve and protect us;

NOW THEREFORE RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved, to direct the Committee on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, into the alleged relentless harassment by the law enforcement units towards perya operators and workers, with the end in view of recommending legislative measures that would ensure the promotion and safeguarding the rights and dignity of the perya industry.

Adopted,


RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA