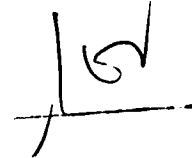


NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
***Second Regular Session*)**

24 MAR -6 P5:50

RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE

P. S. RES. No. 954

Introduced by SEN. WIN GATCHALIAN

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED IMPORT SMUGGLING OF TWO (2) BUGATTI CHIRON SPORTS CARS INTO THE PHILIPPINES, WITH AN END VIEW OF ABATING THE OUTRIGHT SMUGGLING OF LUXURY CARS BY INTRODUCING REMEDIAL LEGISLATION, AS MAY BE NECESSARY.

1 WHEREAS, under Section 102, par. (ff), of Republic Act No. 10863, otherwise
2 known as the "Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA)", outright smuggling is
3 defined as "an act of importing goods into the country without complete customs
4 prescribed importation documents, or without being cleared by customs or other
5 regulatory government agencies, for the purpose of evading payment of prescribed
6 taxes, duties and other government charges";

7 WHEREAS, the Bureau of Customs ("BOC") conducted an investigation after
8 receipt of information in November 2023 about luxury vehicles that entered the
9 Philippines without going through regular customs clearance¹;

10 WHEREAS, on 02 February 2024, upon the recommendation of Deputy
11 Commissioner for Intelligence Group, Juvymax R. Uy, a Warrant of Seizure and
12 Detention ("WSD") was issued by the District Collector of the Bureau of Customs
13 ("BOC") against two (2) undocumented Bugatti Chiron sports cars that has been

¹ Bureau of Customs: "*BOC tracks down two smuggled Bugatti sports car*" (09 February 2024), available at: <https://customs.gov.ph/boc-tracks-down-two-smuggled-bugatti-sports-cars/> (Date last accessed: 29 February 2024).

14 frequently seen in around Metro Manila and its adjacent cities (*i.e.*, in Pasay, Pasig,
15 Muntinlupa, and Cavite)²;

16 WHEREAS, the two (2) luxury sports car (*i.e.*, a blue Bugatti with license plate
17 no. NIM 5448 and red Bugatti with license plate no. NIM 5450) did not go through
18 regular customs clearance as the aforementioned hot cars are without import
19 documents as confirmed by the Management Information Systems and Technology
20 Group (MISTG)³;

21 WHEREAS, on 09 February 2024, the alleged owner of the smuggled red Bugatti
22 Chiron, surrendered the luxury car to the Customs Intelligence and Investigation
23 Service (BOC-CIIS) at the Manila International Container Port⁴. The car had been
24 stored in a house in Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City⁵;

25 WHEREAS, on 21 February 2024, less than two (2) weeks since BOC issued a
26 warning to the registered owner, the blue Bugatti Chiron was likewise surrendered to
27 BOC-CIIS⁶;

28 WHEREAS, the luxury sports cars, worth One Hundred Sixty-Five Million Pesos
29 (Php165,000,000) each without customs duties and taxes are registered under a
30 certain Menguin Zhu and a certain Thru Trang Nguyen⁷;

31 WHEREAS, these smuggled vehicles were publicly listed for sale on online
32 marketplaces and social media platforms⁸;

33 WHEREAS, there is a need to determine the lapses and loopholes in
34 government processes that led to the continued persistence of outright smuggling of
35 luxury items in the country, including cars, that deprives the government of much-
36 needed revenues and poses a serious and great threat to the national economy;

37 WHEREAS, based on the foregoing, it is necessary for the government to assess
38 the scale of car smuggling in the country; enhance border control measure; and deploy
39 cutting-edge methods and technologies to combat luxury car smuggling;

² *Id.*

³ *Id.*

⁴ Philippine News Agency: "*Owner surrenders smuggled Bugatti sports car to BOC*" (09 February 2024), available at: <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1218590> (Date last accessed: 29 February 2024).

⁵ *Id.*

⁶ Daily Tribune: "*Smuggled blue Bugatti surrendered to BOC*" (22 February 2024), available at: <https://tribune.net.ph/2024/02/21/smuggled-blue-bugatti-surrendered-to-boc> (Date last accessed: 29 February 2024).

⁷ *Id.*

⁸ *Supra* note 1.

40 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate, to direct
41 the appropriate Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the
42 import smuggling of Bugatti Chiron in the country, with an end view of abating the
43 outright smuggling of luxury sports car by introducing remedial legislation, as may be
44 necessary.

Adopted,



WIN GATCHALIAN