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THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

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SENATE P.S. Resolution No. 624 RECEIVED BY:

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Introduced by Senator Richard J. Gordon

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, TO REVIEW THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9369 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE AUTOMATED ELECTION SYSTEM LAW

Whereas, Republic Act No. 9369, "An Act Amending Republic Act No. 8436, entitled "An Act Authorizing the Commission on Elections to Use an Automated Election System in the May 11, 1998 National or Local Elections and in Subsequent National and Local Electoral Exercises, to Encourage Transparency, Credibility, Fairness and Accuracy of Elections, Amending for the Purpose Batas Pambansa Blg. 881, as Amended, Republic Act No. 7166 and Other Related Elected Laws, Providing Funds Therefor and for Other Purposes" was signed into law by President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo last 23 January 2007, was published last 26 January 2007, and per Section 47 thereof became effective 10 February 2007;

Whereas, Republic Act No. 9369 authorized the Commission on Elections (COMELEC) to use an automated election system in different provinces, whether paper-based or direct recording electronic election system as it may deem appropriate in the process of voting, counting of votes, and canvassing/consolidation and transmittal of results of electoral exercises;

Whereas, Republic Act No. 9369 the COMELEC is mandated to use an automated election system for the regular and national elections in May 2007 in at least two highly urbanized cities and two provinces each in Luzon, Visayas, and Mindanao;

Whereas, Republic Act No. 9369 provided for the creation of an advisory council among whose functions is to recommend the most appropriate, secure, applicable and cost-effective technology to be applied in the automated election system at that specific point in time;

Whereas, the COMELEC advisory council that convened on 14 February 2007 resolved that the Automated Election System (AES) cannot be implemented in the twelve (12) pilot test areas for the 14 May 2007 elections and that it cannot recommend the use of AES;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, as it is hereby resolved, to call for an investigation, in aid of legislation, to review the implementation of the Republic Act No. 9369 otherwise known as the Automated Elections/System Law,

Adopted,

RICHARD J. GORDONA