


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

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SENATE

P.S. Res. No. **339**

RECEIVED BY: 

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Introduced by Senator Biazon  
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**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE TRUE STATE OF THE RICE SUPPLY SITUATION OF THE COUNTRY**

*Whereas*, Reports coming from the international media indicate that the world is currently experiencing a shortage in the supply of rice;

*Whereas*, In the Philippines, there are conflicting pronouncements coming from the President as well as other government officials on the true state of the supply of rice in the country as is evident in the President announcing that there is no shortage of rice in the country and the Department of Agriculture warning of a rice deficit of 2.1 million tons this year, equivalent to about two months' consumption;

*Whereas*, According to the data of the Bureau of Agricultural Statistics the price of rice has risen sharply, the wholesale price of premium rice risen by thirty-one (31) percent and that of well-milled rice by thirty-six (36) percent from 2001 to February 2008;

*Whereas*, The average Filipino which consumes 118.7 kilos or 2.4 sacks of rice a year, may not be able afford such a sharp rise in the price of rice;

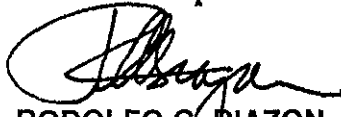
*Whereas*, There is a need to determine the true state of rice supply in the country in order to properly address it as even the traditional sources of our imported rice may not be able to provide us our requirements as they have their own domestic situation to take care of;

*Whereas*, There is also a need to address this situation now not only to provide for our present but also our future need for rice as it is projected that by the year 2020, we need to increase our production of rice by as much as 46%;

*Whereas*, There is a need to inquire on the true state of the rice supply situation in the country in light of the implementation of the Agriculture and Fisheries Modernization Act of 1997 (AFMA) which provides among others, policies and programs to jumpstart our agriculture and in turn food security for the country; *Now, Therefore, Be It Resolved As It Is Hereby Resolved,*

*By the Senate*, To Direct the Committee On Agriculture And Food To Conduct An Inquiry, In Aid Of Legislation, On The True State Of The Rice Supply Situation Of The Country.

Adopted,

  
RODOLFO G. BIAZON  
Senator