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

8 MAR 31 P2 --

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A LEGILTARY

SENATE

HECEIVED BY :

P.S. Res. No. 334

Introduced by HON. RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE ALLEGED PILFERAGE OF RICE BY NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY EMPLOYEES

WHEREAS, the Philippines has always been known as an agricultural, riceproducing country and as such rice is the most important food commodity among the Filipinos;

WHEREAS, National Food Authority which was created through Presidential Decree No. 4 dated September 26, 1972, under the name National Grains Authority, is vested the functions of ensuring the food security of the country and the stability of supply and price of the staple grain-rice;

WHEREAS, the NFA performs these functions through various activities and strategies, which include procurement of paddy from individual bonafide farmers and their organizations, buffer stocking, processing activities, dispersal of paddy and milled rice to strategic locations and distribution of the staple grain to various marketing outlets;

WHEREAS, the world is facing a rice crisis and the Philippines is scrambling to import rice to cover its shortfall;

WHEREAS, the Philippines produces about 90 percent of its rice requirement and need to import up to 2.1 million metric tons to maintain its two-month inventory;

WHEREAS, another cause for the shortage is the alleged illegal diversion of these subsidized rice from NFA to corrupt grains cartels, depriving the people of affordable rice;

WHEREAS, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo speaking at the Mindanao Cooperative Summit announced that dishonest NFA employees would face criminal charges for conniving with unscrupulous rice traders in diverting NFA rice from distribution to the needy and diverting it to the commercial market;

WHEREAS, it is crucial to look into this serious allegations against these NFA employees in order to avoid rice shortage, otherwise, hundred of thousands, if not millions of Filipinos going hungry.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES, to direct the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Food to conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, into the alleged pilferage of rice by National Food Authority employees.

Adopted.

G REVILLA JR. RAMO lator