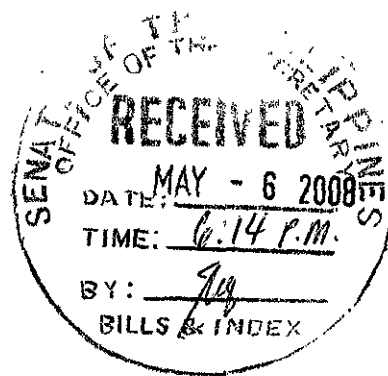


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

SENATE

P.S. RES NO. 387



Introduced by **SENATOR PIA S. GAYETANO**

A RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON ACCOUNTABILITY OF PUBLIC OFFICERS AND INVESTIGATIONS AND ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES TO CONDUCT A JOINT HEARING, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALLEGED BRIBERY BY HANJIN HEAVY INDUSTRIES INC., AND EXTORTION BY LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WHICH VIOLATED/MAY VIOLATE ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS AND LAWS ON GRAFT AND CORRUPTION

WHEREAS, the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources conducted a hearing on the construction of two condominium buildings by Hanjin Heavy Industries Inc. (Hanjin) inside the Subic Watershed Forest Reserve;

WHEREAS, during the aforesaid hearing, it was discovered that the construction began in January 2007, six (6) months prior to the issuance of the Environmental Compliance Certificate (ECC) by the Subic Bay Management Authority (SBMA) Ecology Center in July 2007;

WHEREAS, the propriety of delegating the authority to issue ECCs to the SBMA by the Department of Environment and Natural Resources was also raised in the hearing;

WHEREAS, since the hearing there have been recent reports of allegations of bribery, extortion and intimidation against Hanjin and some local government officials of Misamis Oriental;

WHEREAS, the project under fire involves the construction of a \$2 billion shipyard in Mindanao by Hanjin;

WHEREAS, the \$2 billion shipyard is one of the country's biggest foreign funded projects;

WHEREAS, the Hanjin Misamis Oriental shipyard will have a capacity of 830,000 tons per year and is expected to create around 40,000 jobs;

WHEREAS, the shipyard, occupying 441 hectares, is situated inside the Phividec Industrial Estate in Mindanao's northern tip;

WHEREAS, Hanjin was ordered to stop work after failing to acquire an ECC prior to its clearing operations which involved bulldozing of 50 hectares of coconut, corn and vegetable farms;

WHEREAS, there are reports of bribery by Hanjin and extortion by some local government officials in exchange for the issuance of the necessary permits and clearances for the project;

WHEREAS, in line with their accusation, Hanjin filed complaints against the local officials who had allegedly intimidated company officials and staff;

WHEREAS, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo ordered the police to immediately investigate accusations of extortion, bribery and intimidation after the aforesaid complaints were made by Hanjin;

WHEREAS, in all surveys, both local and foreign businessmen have been complaining about corruption in the country;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Senate of the Philippines direct the Committees on Accountability of Public Officers and Investigations and Environment and Natural Resources to conduct a joint hearing, in aid of legislation, on the alleged bribery by Hanjin Heavy Industries Inc., and extortion by local government officials which violated/may violate environmental laws and laws on graft and corruption.

Adopted,


SENATOR PIA S. CAYETANO