

SENATE

P. S. Res. No. 87

20 06 11 12:11

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

RESOLUTION
URGING THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, EMPLOYMENT AND HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE RISE OF HIGHLY PROFESSIONALIZED AND SKILLED FILIPINO WORKERS LEAVING THE COUNTRY, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF BEEFING UP RETENTION INITIATIVES AND POLICIES TO STEM THE BRAIN DRAIN THAT MAY CRIPPLE MANY OF OUR INDUSTRIES

Whereas, human capital flight, more commonly referred to as "brain drain", is the large-scale emigration of individuals with technical skills or knowledge;¹

Whereas, although the term originally referred to technology workers leaving a nation, brain drain has broadened into "the departure of educated or professional people from one country, economic sector, or field for another, usually for better pay or living conditions";²

Whereas, pilots, doctors, nurses, scientists, engineers, doctors, information technology (IT) specialists, accountants and even teachers are leaving the country in droves for better-paying jobs abroad;

Whereas, the exodus of Filipino professionals are changing the stereotype of overseas Filipino workers (OFWs), who are largely domestic workers, hotel housekeepers, laborers, and seamen;

Whereas, the aviation industry is still reeling from the effects of the mass resignation of 25 pilots of the country's flag carrier, Philippine Airlines, to work for other foreign airlines that offer higher wages;

Whereas, the Philippine Atmospheric, Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA) revealed that it has not enough qualified meteorologists because 24 staff had gone abroad for better-paying jobs in recent years;

Whereas, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) announced it had lost 83 geologists to overseas work over the past three years;

Whereas, an estimated 15,000 health professionals leave the Philippines annually for employment abroad;

¹ http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Brain_drain

² "Brain drain - Definition and More", Free Merriam-Webster Dictionary, 2010, web MW-b

Whereas, there is a skills haemorrhage, we are losing workers in the highly professional and skilled categories:³ Now therefore be it

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, urging the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resource Development and other appropriate committees, to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the rise of highly professionalized and skilled Filipino workers leaving the country, with the end in view of beefing up retention initiatives and policies to stem the brain drain that may cripple many of our industries.

Adopted,


MANNY VILLAR
Senator

³ Vicente Leogardo, director-general of the Employers' Confederation of the Philippines