

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

SENATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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SENATE

P.S. Resolution No. 121 RECEIVED BY fw

Introduced by SENATOR GREGORIO B. HONASAN II

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEES ON PUBLIC ORDER AND ILLEGAL DRUGS, AND JUSTICE AND HUMAN RIGHTS TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE REPORTED TORTURE OF A ROBBERY SUSPECT BY A POLICE OFFICER THAT WAS SHOWN IN AN EXCLUSIVE VIDEO CLIP BY ABS-CBN NEWS ON AUGUST 17, 2010, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF LOOKING INTO AND REVIEWING THE MANNER AND PROCEDURES OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE IN HANDLING DETAINEES UNDER ITS CUSTODY IN LIGHT OF THE ANTI-TORTURE ACT OF 2009, OTHER RELATED LAWS AND INTERNATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTRUMENTS TO WHICH THE PHILIPPINES IS A SIGNATORY, AND COME UP WITH REMEDIAL LEGISLATIVE MEASURES TO ADDRESS THE SAME

WHEREAS, the 1987 Philippine Constitution condemns and prohibits any and all forms of torture;

WHEREAS, the Philippines is a signatory to various international instruments which include the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), and the Convention Against Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT);

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9745, otherwise known as the "Anti-Torture Act of 2009" was enacted to value the dignity of every human person and guarantee full respect for human rights; and ensure that the human rights of all persons, including suspects, detainees and prisoners are respected at all times; and that no person placed under investigation or held in custody of any person in authority or agent of a person in authority shall be subjected to physical, psychological or mental harm, force, violence, threat or intimidation or any act that impairs his/her free will or in any manner demeans or degrades human dignity;

WHEREAS, on August 17, 2010, ABS-CBN's TV Patrol showed on national television an exclusive video clip of a robbery suspect purportedly being tortured by a police officer inside the police station in full view of other officers;

WHEREAS, in its news release dated August 17, 2010, the ABS-CBN NEWS reported that:

"The video showed a naked man in a fetal position on the floor of an alleged police precinct, his genitals supposedly bound with a rope."

“Another man wearing a white shirt and shorts is then seen whipping the victim's face and torso with a rope while heaping curses on him.”

“The man is also seen ordering the victim to remove his hands from his genitals while pulling the rope, making the victim cries out in pain.”

WHEREAS, such act of torture and police brutality which purportedly resulted in the death of the robbery suspect are serious violations of Republic Act No. 9745, the 1987 Philippine Constitution and international human rights instruments;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE, that the Committees on Public Order and Illegal Drugs, and Justice and Human Rights be directed to investigate, in aid of legislation, the reported torture of a robbery suspect by a police officer as shown in an exclusive video clip by the ABS-CBN News in its August 17, 2010 episode, with the end in view of looking into and reviewing the manner and procedures of the Philippine National Police in handling detainees under its custody in light of the Anti-torture Act of 2009, other related laws and international human instruments to which the Philippines is a signatory, and come up with remedial legislative measures to address the same;

ADOPTED,



SEN. GREGORIO B. HONASAN II