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SENATE  
P. S. R. No. 937



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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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RESOLUTION  
DIRECTING AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,  
ON THE DECLINE OF THE PHILIPPINES'S RANKING IN THE WORLD  
ECONOMIC FORUM'S 2009 TRAVEL AND TOURISM COMPETITIVENESS  
REPORT

WHEREAS, the various news agencies on 6 March 2009 reported that the Philippines went down five places in the World Economic Forum's (WEF) 2009 Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Report, dropping from 81<sup>st</sup> to the 86<sup>th</sup> place out of 133 countries;

WHEREAS, the report also said our Asian neighbours surpassed the Philippines in tourism competitiveness, with Singapore at 10th spot, Hong Kong 12th, Malaysia 32nd, Taiwan 43rd, Sri Lanka 78th, and Indonesia 81<sup>st</sup>;

WHEREAS, WEF officials reportedly said that its report reflects the many difficulties the industry currently faces which must be overcome to ensure strong sectoral growth in the future;

WHEREAS, WEF officials also allegedly said that their aims to measure the factors, based on the Travel & Tourism Competitiveness Index (TTCI) that make it attractive to develop the travel and tourism industry of individual countries, and those that placed high in the rankings demonstrate the importance of supportive business and regulatory frameworks, coupled with world-class transport and tourism infrastructure, and a focus on nurturing human and natural resources for fostering an environment that is attractive for developing the travel and tourism sector;

WHEREAS, WEF officials allegedly claimed that the TTCI will help governments and the tourism industry identify areas where support in the sector can show big gains in the response to both the recession and climate change, as tourism competitiveness is a major element to be included in economic stimulation packages and the Green New Deal;

WHEREAS, WEF officials reportedly said that the travel and tourism sector remains a critical economic sector worldwide and one that provides significant potential for economic growth and development internationally;

WHEREAS, WEF stressed that the economic downturn forces a new view on a country's travel and tourism policy by the local government and the industry to preserve the competitiveness of its destinations;

WHEREAS, the WEF's evaluation of the travel and tourism industry in our country serves as a wake-up call not only for the local industry players but also for the

local governments and the Department of Tourism so that the industry can cope and succeed in the context of a global economic crisis;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved in the Philippine Senate, to direct the proper Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation, on the decline of the Philippines's ranking in the World Economic Forum's 2009 Travel and Tourism Competitiveness Report.

Adopted,

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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