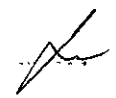


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
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S E N A T E

P. S. Res. No. 958

RECEIVED BY 

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

**RESOLUTION**

**URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON FOREIGN RELATIONS, LABOR, EMPLOYMENT AND HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE DISCRIMINATION SUFFERED BY THE OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES, DEPRIVING THEM OF EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IN THE ACCESS OF PUBLIC SERVICES IN FOREIGN COUNTRIES AND THE INEXORABLE NAME-CALLING AND PREJUDICED BRANDING OF FILIPINOS AND THE PHILIPPINES WITH THE OBJECTIVE OF URGING THE GOVERNMENT TO MOBILIZE ITS AGENCIES AND EXHAUST MEASURES TO PROTECT THE FILIPINOS AND THE COUNTRY FROM UNDESERVED RACIAL DISCRIMINATION**

*Whereas*, the 1987 Philippine Constitution manifests the significance of human rights and advances for the protection of it as provided in Article II Section 11, "The State values the dignity of every human person and guarantees full respect for human rights" and in Article XIII, Section 1, "The Congress shall give highest priority to the enactment of measures that protect and enhance the right of all the people to human dignity, reduce social, economic, and political inequalities, and remove cultural inequalities by equitably diffusing wealth and political power of the common good.";

*Whereas*, very recently, an article featuring discrimination of Filipinos was published in Hongkong despite the existence of a Race Discrimination Law in the same country that guarantees equal rights amongst its citizens and residents;

*Whereas*, this however is not the lone case of discrimination directed to Filipinos in Hong Kong and in other countries, such that in the recollection of Ray Arcilla, a Filipino resident in Hong Kong for more than two decades, racial prejudice as he expresses is a daily encumbrance for Filipinos, Nepalese and Indians alike;

*Whereas*, some Filipinos attested to have received unfair treatment in hospitals, government agencies and schools, complaining against the difficulty to access services and be granted with equal opportunities in employment and education;

*Whereas*, the government should establish necessary measures to prevent the occurrence of the same incident belittling the integrity of Filipinos especially those who are working in foreign countries and the government should thus protect our fellowmen from discrimination and prejudice;

*Whereas*, the government and its concerned agencies should extend heightened concern for the dignity and morality of the overseas Filipino workers (OFWs) that should be promulgated fore mostly by the Philippine overseas agencies and labor attaches by giving assistance to OFWs

in distress or when such situation arises so that the international community will respect our workers as vital key players in the society and not address them as mere “servants”;

*Whereas*, the national government should engage in continuous dialogue with the heads of nations, especially where many OFWs are deployed, hence locals especially the employers of Filipinos abroad will recognize the workers as fellowmen commanding respect and dignified correlation;

*Whereas*, an international convention may be endorsed to govern the media encompassing print, broadcast and the like to condemn as well as impose penalties on name-calling such that using despicable remarks to describe the Filipino workers and the Philippines as a nation;

*Whereas*, the OFWs as well, should pledge for nationalism and self-respect so they could project self-worth and gain respect from foreigners especially of their employers;

*Whereas*, Filipino workers and the Philippines as a nation should be protected against mockery and disrespect in any form in the international community; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to urge the Senate Committees on Foreign Relations, Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the discrimination suffered by the Overseas Filipino Workers in foreign countries, depriving them of equal opportunities in the access of public services in foreign countries and the inexorable name-calling and prejudiced branding of Filipinos and the Philippines with the objective of urging the government to mobilize its agencies and exhaust measures to protect the Filipinos and the country from undeserved racial discrimination.

Adopted,

**MANNY VILLAR**  
Senator