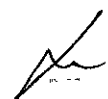


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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1254

RECEIVED BY 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED NEED FOR THE GOVERNMENT
TO STRENGTHEN ITS INFORMATION DISSEMINATION CAMPAIGN AGAINST
SCAMS ESPECIALLY THOSE INVOLVING INTERNATIONAL DRUG
TRAFFICKING

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 18 states: "The state affirms labor as a primary social economic force. It shall protect the rights of workers and promote their welfare";

WHEREAS, the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* in its 23 July 2009 issue reported that there is an increase in the number of Filipinas being used as drug mules;

WHEREAS, it was reported by the Philippine Embassy in Hanoi that more Filipinas are targeted by international syndicates to become carriers of illegal drugs;

WHEREAS, it was reported that most of these Filipinas are unknowingly involved in drug trafficking since they bank on jobs promised by alleged recruiters;

WHEREAS, the report claimed that the victims were promised jobs to China in exchange for bringing "personal things" to China for their "benefactor";

WHEREAS, in an example cited by the report, three Filipino women were offered \$500 to \$600 each by a Nigerian to deliver 5-10 pieces of T-shirts from Ho Chi Minh City in Vietnam to China; but the T-shirts were allegedly immersed in liquefied illegal drugs and then dried before delivery;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Embassy in Beijing appealed to Filipino travelers to heed the government's warning not to allow themselves to be used as couriers by drug syndicates, especially since China and other countries strictly impose harsh penalties on persons caught in possession of or who engage in the trafficking of prohibited drugs;

WHEREAS, despite our stringent laws against drug trafficking, it is also incumbent upon the government to educate its people into avoiding scams that could lead them into becoming unwilling agents of drug trafficking;

WHEREAS, the government should strengthen its information dissemination campaign on prevalent scams in the country especially those involving international drug trafficking to prevent our often lowly and uneducated Filipinos from falling prey to such scams because they want to work abroad;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the proper Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation, on the reported need for the government to strengthen its information dissemination campaign against scams especially those involving international drug trafficking.

Adopted,

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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