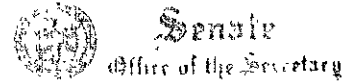
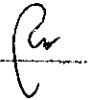


FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



11 SEP -1 P4:14

SENATE
P. S. R. No. **581**

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, ON ALLEGED CORRUPT PRACTICES IN THE MUNTINLUPA
PENITENTIARY

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 27 mandates: "The State shall maintain honesty and integrity in the public service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption";

WHEREAS, several complaints by inmates of the Muntinlupa penitentiary allege that in order to avoid being transferred to the penal colony in Palawan, they have to pay certain prison officials a fee of P5,000;

WHEREAS, it was claimed that the inmates do not want to be transferred to the Palawan penal colony because the risk of acquiring dengue is very high, and that the mortality rate from dengue and other ailments among the residents is equally high;

WHEREAS, it was also alleged that since most of the inmates are poor, they still have to seek financial assistance from outside sources in order to prevent their transfer to Palawan;


WHEREAS, payment demanded by prison officials for non-transference is not sanctioned by law, and therefore constitutes extortion;

WHEREAS, given the constrained condition of the inmates, they find it difficult to complain of the injustices within the penitentiary; hence, such corrupt practices should be immediately brought to the attention of the Department of Justice;

WHEREAS, the legislature should also enact measures that will curb corrupt practices in penitentiaries by creating graver penalties for those officials who extort money from inmates; likewise, stricter guidelines and reporting mechanisms should be implemented in order to prevent the prevalence of such corrupt practices;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the proper Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on alleged corrupt practices in the Muntinlupa penitentiary.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

/mamt