

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session

"12 MAY -7 P2:35

SENATE

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P. S. Res. No. **761**

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID

RESOLUTION

URGING THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD, COMMITTEE ON FINANCE AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED SMUGGLING OF MEAT IN THE COUNTRY WITH THE END IN VIEW OF PUTTING AN END TO THIS ILLEGAL ACT AND ENACT MEASURES TO PROTECT OUR LOCAL LIVESTOCK RAISERS

WHEREAS, reports indicate that the local livestock industry incurred losses in tevenues amounting to almost **P8.0B** on the second half of last year alone due to rampant meat smuggling;

WHEREAS, according to the Swine Development Council, these illegal activities translated to losses in income for the government in customs duties and tariffs amounting to over *P3.7B* through misdeclarations in the documentation of imported meat;

WHEREAS, reports say that most of the entities extended with meat importation permits are suspicious corporations, some allegedly having paid-up capital of only P30,000 in their registration papers but were allowed to import millions of kilograms of meat;

WHEREAS, there is a need to re-study existing policies in the importation of meat as local livestock raisers have claimed that the homegrown supply will suffice to satisfy the national demand for livestock meat;

WHEREAS, if the problem of meat smuggling will not be addressed appropriately by the government, local hog raisers have warned of a five (5)-day pork holiday which may have adverse effects on the supply and price of meat in public markets;

WHEREAS, as a critical sector of agriculture, local livestock raisers deserve to be protected from these alleged illegal activities which may have given unfair advantage to unscrupulous individuals to the detriment of the growth and development of the local livestock industry;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to urge the Committee on Agriculture and Food, Committee on Finance and other appropriate committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the reported smuggling of meat in the country with the end in view of enacting measures to protect our local livestock raisers and put an end to this illegal act.

Adopted,

MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID