



SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

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SENATE **175**
P. S. Res. No. _____

Introduced by Senator VICENTE C. SOTTO III

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN RELATIONS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE PROPRIETY OF USING THE DEPARTMENT OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS' RESOURCES IN PROVIDING LEGAL ASSISTANCE TO FILIPINO DRUG MULES IN HONGKONG, WHO ARE NOT EVEN OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS (OFW's).

WHEREAS, the mission statement of the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) provides that:

“To advance the interests of the Philippines and the Filipino people in the world community”;

WHEREAS, one of the visions of the DFA states that:

“Our missions abroad are the partners of Filipinos overseas in the pursuit of the national interest and in the promotion and protection of their rights and well-being”;

WHEREAS, the DFA confirmed that two Filipina siblings, ages 27 and 31 were arrested by customs officers in the Hong Kong's Chek Lap Kok Airport after they were caught carrying 14 kilos of crystal methamphetamine in their luggage worth worth Php60 million (HK\$10.9 million or \$1.4million);

WHEREAS, under the Hong Kong law, manufacturing and trafficking dangerous drugs carries a maximum penalty of life imprisonment and a fine amounting to HK\$5 million.;

WHEREAS, the two Filipina siblings have tourist status in Hong Kong; they are not Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) and are not members of the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA);

WHEREAS, the DFA expressed that the Philippine government, through the Philippine Consulate General will extend all appropriate consular assistance to the Filipina siblings, including legal assistance;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Senate, to direct the Committee on Foreign Relations to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the propriety of using the Department of Foreign Affairs' resources in providing legal assistance to Filipino drug mules in Hong Kong who are not even Overseas Filipino Workers (OFW's).

ADOPTED,



VICENTE. C. SOTTO III

