



SENATE

13 AUG -8 P2:15

P.S. RES NO. 178

RECEIVED BY: *ji*

Introduced by SENATOR PIA S. CAYETANO

**A RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON GAMES, AMUSEMENT AND SPORTS
TO LOOK INTO, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE PREPARATIONS BEING DONE
FOR THE 27th SOUTHEAST ASIAN GAMES**

WHEREAS, Article XIV, Section 19 (1) of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states that, "The State shall promote physical education and encourage sports programs, league competitions, and amateur sports, including training for international competitions, to foster self-discipline, teamwork, and excellence for the development of a healthy and alert citizenry."

WHEREAS, the 27th Southeast Asian (SEA) Games is scheduled to be held in Naypyidaw, Myanmar from 11 to 22 December 2013;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Olympic Committee (POC) is a private, non-governmental organization composed of, and that serves as the mother organization of all National Sports Associations (NSAs) in the Philippines and is recognized by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) as having the sole authority for representation of the Philippines in the Olympic Games, the Asian Games, the Southeast Asian Games and other multi-event competitions;

WHEREAS, the Philippines Sports Commission (PSC) is a governmental regulatory agency which serves as the prime catalyst and advocate for the propagation and development of Philippine sports by helping shape national policies and setting priorities;

WHEREAS, per news reports, the POC and PSC have decided to send a reduced number of Filipino athletes to the biennial regional meet composed mainly of gold medalists from the 2011 Indonesian SEA Games and potential gold medal performers to represent the Philippines;

WHEREAS, in view of the decision of these sports governing bodies to reduce SEA Games participation, the proposed Philippine delegation has been reportedly cut down to 130 from around 200 athletes;

WHEREAS, the gold medal criteria set by the POC has generated opposition and criticisms for the lack of standards in the selection of delegates which resulted in the non-inclusion of certain teams and NSAs from participating in the 2013 SEA Games;

WHEREAS, imposing the gold medal standard takes away the significance of winning silver or bronze medals which is still an indication of the "gold medal potential" and which also counts in the overall medal tally;

WHEREAS, athletes need exposure outside of our country in the bigger arenas such as the SEA Games and if we are to dream of sending athletes to the Olympics one day, the stepping stone is the SEA Games;

WHEREAS, setting such standards would be counterproductive and detrimental to the development of the Filipino athletes and runs counter to the Constitutional mandate to promote and encourage sports participation in international competitions as a way of harnessing the full potential of our people;

WHEREAS, there is a need to look at the grassroots programs being implemented to assess how we are training our athletes to become internationally competitive;

WHEREAS, there is a need to look into and examine the status of the 2013 SEA Games preparations being made by sports governing bodies to be able to propose remedial measures as regards pressing and crucial issues;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, the Senate of the Philippines directs the Senate Committee on Games, Amusement and Sports to investigate, in aid of legislation, and look into the preparations being made and the level of preparedness of the Philippines for the 27th Southeast Asian (SEA) Games.

Adopted,


PIA S. CAYETANO
Senator