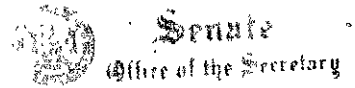


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



13 NOV -7 P4:14

SENATE
P. S. R. No. 342

RECEIVED BY. *ja*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES THROUGH THE PROTECTED AREAS AND WILDLIFE BUREAU, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED DEATH OF THE PHILIPPINE EAGLE 'MINALWANG' WHICH WAS SHOT TWO MONTHS AFTER IT WAS RELEASED INTO THE WILD.

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 16 states, "The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature";

WHEREAS, Interaksyon.com, posted on 19 October 2013, that Philippine Eagle 'Minalwang' was shot dead, just two months after release into wild after its rehabilitation;

WHEREAS, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), through the Protected Areas and Wildlife Bureau (PAWB), has reportedly asked for the public's help to find out who shot Minalwang;

WHEREAS, the eagle was reportedly found on Mount Lumot in Gingoog City by members of the Davao-based Philippine Eagle Foundation (PEF);

WHEREAS, Minalwang was released by the PEF in Mount Balatukan Range Natural Park in Gingoog City, on August 15, after being rescued in Barangay Minalwang in Claveria, Misamis Oriental by DENR personnel who received reports from local tribesmen;

WHEREAS, it was reported that PEF was alerted after the satellite transmitter attached to the eagle to track its movements stopped sending its signal;

WHEREAS, PAWB director Theresa Mundita Lim allegedly said that this is another blow for PAWB, especially for the conservation program where they have been trying so hard to perpetuate the existence of *haring ibon* (king bird);

WHEREAS, the Philippine Eagle, allegedly described by American aviator Charles Lindbergh as "the world's noblest flier," is considered a critically endangered species by the International Union for the Conservation of Nature;

WHEREAS, it was reported there are an estimated 500 pairs in the wild and less than 50 including those bred in captivity or being rehabilitated in the custody of the PEF and DENR;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9147, or the Wildlife Resources Conservation and Protection Act, provides jail sentences of up to 12 years and fines of up to P1 million for those found guilty of killing protected species;

WHEREAS, there is a need for stricter implementation and refining of existing laws to prevent the killing and to protection of endangered species;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate to direct the Senate committee on Environment and Natural Resources to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the reported death of the Philippine Eagle 'Minalwang' which was shot two months after it was released into the wild.

Adopted,

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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