

13 DEC -3 P4 01

SENATE
P.S. Res 404

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Poe

RESOLUTION
RECOMMENDING TO THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
THAT THE PUBLIC BE GRANTED FULL ACCESS TO THE BICAMERAL
CONFERENCE PROCEEDINGS AND MEETINGS ON THE PRECEPTS AND
PROMOTION OF CONSTITUTIONAL PRINCIPLES OF ACCOUNTABILITY,
TRANSPARENCY AND GOOD GOVERNANCE

WHEREAS, Section 28, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states that subject to reasonable conditions prescribed by law, the State adopts and implements a policy of full public disclosure of all its transactions involving public interest.

WHEREAS, in the same Constitution, particularly in the Bill of Rights, it is recognized that the people are afforded the right to information on matters of public concern.

WHEREAS, in the Philippine Legislature's process of passing laws, the body being a bicameral congress in nature, a bill approved in one House will have to be confirmed by the other. This bicameral congress allows for a more careful study of legislation.¹

WHEREAS, differences in the output of both Houses on the same bill are settled in a bicameral conference constituted by select members from the upper and lower house.

WHEREAS, to further ensure that the amendments truly reflect the interests of the people, the public should be granted full access to the bicameral conference proceedings and meetings of the Philippine legislature.

WHEREAS, similar to a committee or public hearing conducted in considering a bill, the public having full access to bicameral conference proceedings and meetings affords accountability, transparency and good governance.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that it be recommended to the Senate and the House of Representatives that the public be granted full access to the bicameral conference proceedings and meetings on the precepts and promotion of constitutional principles of accountability, transparency and good governance.

Adopted,


GRACE POE

¹ Bernas, S.J., *The 1987 Constitution of the Republic of the Philippines*, 2003 ed. p. 654.