

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



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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 747

RECEIVED BY: JN

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED CAVITE RECLAMATION PLAN THAT WILL
DISPLACE OVER 20,000 FISHERMEN

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 16, provides: "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, PhilSTAR.com, in its 5 March 2014 online article, reported that the plan of the national government to reclaim about 2,700 hectares of coastal areas in Cavite City to pave the way for the construction of an international airport to replace the Ninoy Aquino International Airport will destroy a major spawning area of fish in Manila Bay;

WHEREAS, it was reported that various fisherfolk groups, led by Pamalakaya, said that the national government and the Department of Transportation and Communications should not pursue the project because of the devastating impact on fishery environment and livelihood of more than 20,000 subsistence fishermen across Cavite's coastal areas;

WHEREAS, Pamalakaya vice chairperson Salvador reportedly said that the 2,700 hectare Sangley Point reclamation project which will give way to the construction of a new international airport will destroy portions of Manila Bay in the province which is considered as a major spawning ground of fish and other salt water species;

WHEREAS, the Department of Transportation and Communication (DOTC) had announced that it is looking at Sangley Point in Cavite and Laguna de Bay as the possible site of a new international gateway that would replace the congested Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) in Pasay City;

WHEREAS, DOTC Secretary Joseph Emilio Abaya reportedly said that the Japan International Cooperation Agency is initially looking at the former US naval base in Cavite as well as the country's largest lake as the possible site of the new airport;


WHEREAS, Secretary Abaya also allegedly admitted that both locations entail massive reclamation as the new international airport requires at least 2,000 hectares;

WHEREAS, Pamalakaya claimed that some 26,000 fishing families from Bacoar to Cavite City will be displaced from their main source of livelihood once Malacañang agrees with foreign investors and financiers of the Sangley Pt. Reclamation Project in the Cavite Peninsula;

WHEREAS, Pamalakaya also allegedly said that 26,000 fishing families or roughly 156,000 people will be immediately dislodged from their livelihood and communities and what the government will offer for survival of a lifetime is P 15,000 for each of the displaced family;

WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the reported Cavite reclamation plan that will displace over 20,000 fishermen.

Adopted,

ocf

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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