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

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SENATE P. S. Res. No. 883 RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Joseph Victor G. Ejercito

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, TO INVESTIGATE THE PEACE AND ORDER SITUATION OF THE COUNTRY IN VIEW OF THE INCREASING CRIME RATE INCIDENTS

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 5 of the 1987 Constitution affirms that the maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty and property, and the promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy;

WHEREAS, according to the latest data from the Public Information Office of the Philippine National Police, the number of crime incidents in the country in the year 2013 increased tremendously to 1,238,817 from 217,812 in 2012. In the first quarter (January-June) of 2014, the crime volume is pegged at 603,086. Likewise, the crime solution efficiency dropped from 36.7% in 2012 to 28.6% in 2013;²

WHEREAS, in 2014 according to the *Global Peace Index (GPI)*, the world's leading measure of peacefulness, the Philippines ranked 134th out of 162 countries, five notches lower in 2013, second lowest in South East Asia, and third to the lowest in Asia-Pacific Region; ³

WHEREAS, it is daunting and disheartening that in the past weeks and months there is an unabated occurrences of crimes;

WHEREAS, among the crimes lately include the rape slay in Bulacan of Anria Espiritu, ambush of barangay chairman in Manila and a police officer in Quezon City, Benito Chao murder in Caloocan City, the EDSA incident where gun-men poked guns to a sport utility vehicle in the middle of the street in broad day-light, escalating cases of kidnap for ransom, and the list goes on;

¹ Statistics on all Crime Incidents referred/processed/gathered by reporting Police Office (PRO), from the Directorate for Investigation & Detective Management – Research & Analysis Division, Philippine National Police.

² http://www.nscb.gov.ph/stats/statdev/2013/ch8_peace.asp

³ http://www.philstar.com/headlines/2014/08/25/1361459/phl-drops-5-notches-global-peace-index

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need for the Philippine Senate to investigate the rising crime rates to ensure the safety of the public, to direct the agencies concerned to improve and upgrade the security and increase police visibility in public areas, to expedite resolution of these cases and to enact, review or amend legislations in order to prevent or lessen the recurrence of the same crimes in the future:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, for the proper Senate Committee, to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, to investigate the peace and order situation of the country in view of the increasing crime rate incidents.

Adopted,

JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

Senator