

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

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P. S. R. No. **1011**

RECEIVED DY:

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED CIRCULATION OF FAKE ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATES BY UNSCRUPULOUS INDIVIDUALS

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 14 provides: "The State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them";

WHEREAS, on 1 November 2014, mb.com.ph on its online article said certain unscrupulous individuals are circulating fake environmental compliance certificates (ECCs);

WHEREAS, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) reportedly warned the public following the discovery of a fraudulent ECC issued to an indigenous peoples' organization for a gold mining project in Zamboanga del Sur;

WHEREAS, the fake ECC supposedly allows Balabag Indigenous Peoples' Minahang Bayan Producers Cooperative (BIPMBP) to conduct open pit and tunnel method of mining gold and other minerals covering some 25,000 hectares in Sitio Balabag;

WHEREAS, it was reported that the bogus ECC, purportedly issued by the DENR, bore the forged signatures of Sec. Ramon Paje and other DENR officials;

WHEREAS, Mines and Geosciences Bureau Director Leo Jasareno confirmed that DENR issued no such ECC and that the signatures affixed to the document were forged;

WHEREAS, it is imperative for Congress to review laws on mining and to prevent, stop, and punish those responsible for making fake ECCs for whatever purpose;

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 circulation of fake environmental compliance certificates by unscrupulous individuals;

Adopted,

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIA

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