

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

Senate  
Office of the Secretary

14 DEC 22 P 3:02

SENATE  
P. S. R. No. 1073

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION  
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID  
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORT THAT OVERWORKED MINORS HAVE BEEN  
RESCUED FROM A TONDO FACTORY

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 13 provides: "the State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs";

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 9231, also known as "Special Protection of Children Against Child Abuse, Exploitation and Discrimination Act", Section 3 states: "a child fifteen (15) years of age but below eighteen (18) shall not be allowed to work for more than eight (8) hours a day, and in no case beyond forty (40) hours a week";

WHEREAS, Inquirer.net, in an article posted on 13 December 2014, reported on dismal sweatshop conditions that four minors working in a garments factory had to endure until they were rescued by the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) on 11 December;

WHEREAS, the minors were—aged 15 to 17, one of them male—were allegedly made to work more than 12 hours a day, starting at 6:30 a.m., as all-around helpers in the factory, and were only allegedly paid ₱2,800.00 a month;

WHEREAS, the minors also claimed that they were not allowed to sit down while at work, and that the place had poor ventilation and no fire exits;

WHEREAS, the government should intensify efforts at addressing the problem of child labor and child abuse in the country;

WHEREAS, Congress, through relevant legislation, must implement measures to prevent businesses from hiring children below 18;

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 report that overworked minors have been rescued from a Tondo factory.

Adopted,

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
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