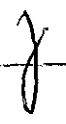


15 MAY 25 P4 22

SENATE
P.S. Res **1374**

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Poe

RESOLUTION

URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND DANGEROUS DRUGS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, REGARDING THE PREVALENCE OF ILLEGAL DRUG TRANSACTIONS AND/OR USE IN BARS AND OTHER PARTY PLACES RESULTING IN THE TRAFFICKING OF PERSONS AND INCREASED CRIMINAL INCIDENTS, AIMED AT REVIEWING EXISTING POLICIES IN INVESTIGATION, SEARCHES AND SEIZURES, AND TO RECOMMEND MEASURES FOR THE EFFECTIVE BUSTS OF CRIMINAL ELEMENTS WITHOUT CAUSING DISRUPTION AND UNDUE HARASSMENT IN SAID BARS OR PARTY PLACES

WHEREAS, the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that, "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";

WHEREAS, the Constitution also provides that "the prime duty of the Government is to serve and protect the people"² and that "the maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy"³;

WHEREAS, just recently, there were numerous drug busts of cocaine, shabu and ecstasy in the country;⁴

WHEREAS, last year, an eighteen-year old student was busted for 223 ecstasy tablets, very popular among young people who love to go to clubs or bars, worth Php334,500.00 inside a condominium building near one of the country's top universities⁵;

WHEREAS, also last year, the arrest of three known affiliates of Sinaloa, one of Mexico's most powerful organized crime groups, was seen by the authorities as proof that the Philippines, due to its large ports, islands and unguarded waters, has become a major transit point for drugs⁶;

WHEREAS, despite the government's utmost efforts in effecting arrests and prosecutions of drug dealers, criminal elements seem to be persistent in drug dealing given the possibility and reality of billions of profits;

¹ Section 13, Article 2, Constitution.

² Section 4, Article 2, Constitution.

³ Section 5, Article 2, Constitution.

⁴ <http://www.manilatimes.net/drug-transit-point/86741/>

⁵ <http://www.manilatimes.net/drug-transit-point/86741/>

⁶ <http://www.manilatimes.net/drug-transit-point/86741/>

WHEREAS, making the drug problem in the country worse, new types of illegal drugs found its way into the Philippines;

WHEREAS, the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) discovered a new type of illegal drug – Gamma-Hydroxybutyric Acid (GHB), a liquid type of ecstasy, is considered a club drug or a "date rape" drug, the wholesale price of which is Php10,000.00 per 100 milliliters⁷;

WHEREAS, another new illegal drug came to the attention of the NBI – the "green apples", which have gained in popularity in top schools and high-end bars⁸;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) also discovered a "dangerous cocktail of ecstasy (3-4 methylenedioxymethamphetamine) and shabu (methamphetamine)" known to have been making the rounds in the local party scene under the street name "fly high" or "party" or "superman"⁹;

WHEREAS, the above-mentioned newly-discovered drugs roaming the streets, party places and bars in the Philippines target our youth primarily and said use of said drugs causes a myriad of deleterious things such as 3 to 4 days of insomnia, loss of appetite, and hypersexuality;

WHEREAS, the fact that the above illegal drugs are mostly peddled within bars and party places endangers the well-being, welfare and future of the youth – the ones who are supposed to be the "*pag-asa ng bayan*";

WHEREAS, even the vigilant non-governmental organization Called To Rescue Philippines noted the increasing sexual trafficking cases as a result of proliferation and easy access to party drugs¹⁰;

WHEREAS, to strengthen and enhance the proper authorities' efforts to battle illegal drugs, the review of existing policies, rules and regulations as to investigations, search and seizures and apprehension or arrests of drug pushers and sellers within private bars and other party places is a must to tighten the noose on the demand side of the illegal drug trade without trampling upon the lawful right to engage into licit business of bars and other party places;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to urge the Senate Committee on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, regarding the prevalence of illegal drug transactions and/or use in bars and other party places resulting in the trafficking of persons and increased criminal incidents, aimed at reviewing existing policies in investigations, searches and seizures and to recommend measures for the effective busts of criminal elements without causing disruption and undue harassment in said bars or party places.

Adopted,


GRACE POE

⁷ <http://www.philstar.com/headlines/2015/04/15/1444170/nbi-discovers-new-date-rape-drug>

⁸ <http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/620229/nbi-wants-green-apples-listed-as-dangerous-drug>

⁹ <http://www.rappler.com/nation/58576-fly-high-pdea-drugs>

¹⁰ www.calledtorescue.com.ph