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SENATE  
P. S. R. No. 1422

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION  
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE  
TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,  
ON THE COMMISSION ON AUDIT REPORT QUESTIONING DAVAO CITY'S 11,246  
CONTRACTUAL WORKERS IN 2014

1 WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 27 provides: "The State shall maintain  
2 honesty and integrity in the public service and take positive and effective measures against graft  
3 and corruption";

4 WHEREAS, the Constitution also provides in Article 2, Section 28: "Subject to  
5 reasonable conditions prescribed by law, the State adopts and implements a policy of full public  
6 disclosure of all its transactions involving public interest";

7 WHEREAS, news website *Rappler* on 16 June 2015 reported that state auditors are  
8 questioning the Davao City government for 11,246 contractual workers in 2014, which cost the  
9 city government ₱708 million;

10 WHEREAS, the Commission on Audit (COA) reportedly doubted the necessity and  
11 regularity of 4,754 job orders that are all for the city mayor's office;

12 WHEREAS, lack of clear hiring policies in Davao City allegedly fosters political  
13 patronage by leaving the identification of persons to be hired, especially for contractual and job  
14 order vacancies, to the discretion of city officials;

15 WHEREAS, the COA claimed that of the 14,499 persons on the city government's  
16 payroll, only 3,253 hold regular positions and receive their salaries from the city's personal  
17 services budget, while the 6,081 contractual employees and 5,165 job orders were paid from  
18 budget for maintenance and other operating expenses;

19 WHEREAS, state auditors reportedly expressed concern over the absence of daily time  
20 records or attendance logs, and the failure to specify the functions and duties of workers in  
21 contracts;

22 WHEREAS, the COA further questioned why some employees remain in contractual  
23 capacity despite having worked in the Davao for more than a decade;

24 WHEREAS, the government must uphold the principle of meritocracy in the civil service  
25 in a bid to improve the delivery of public services and to curb the practice of peddling positions  
26 in the bureaucracy for political patronage;

1           WHEREAS, Congress, alongside its exercise of the power of the purse, must ensure that  
2 local governments are using public funds judiciously;

3           WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct  
4 the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the Commission on  
5 Audit report questioning Davao City's 11,246 contractual workers in 2014.

Adopted,

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
RP

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