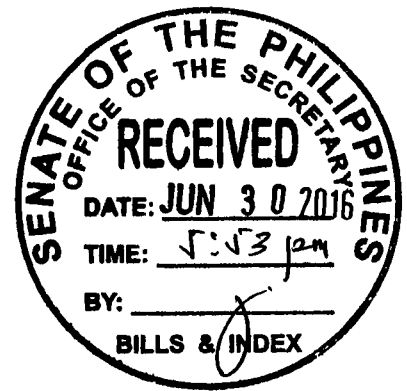


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

SENATE 2  
P. S. Res No. \_\_\_\_\_



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Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

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**RESOLUTION**  
**EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE TO NOMINATE WHANG-OD**  
**OGGAY FOR THE GAWAD SA MANLIKHA NG BAYAN (GAMABA) OR THE**  
**NATIONAL LIVING TREASURES AWARD FOR HER IMMENSE**  
**CONTRIBUTION IN PROMOTING AND PRESERVING FILIPINO TRADITIONAL**  
**FOLK ART**

**WHEREAS**, under Section 17, Article XIV, of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, the State shall recognize, respect, and protect the rights of indigenous cultural communities to preserve and develop their cultures, traditions, and institutions

**WHEREAS**, Section 2 of Republic Act 7335 or the Manlilikha ng Bayan Act declares: "It is hereby declared to be the policy of the State to preserve and promote its traditional folk arts whether visual, performing, or literary, for their cultural value, and to honor and support traditional folk artists for their contribution to the national heritage by ensuring that the artistic skills which they have painstakingly cultivated and preserved are encouraged and passed on to future generations of Filipinos";

**WHEREAS**, the Gawad sa Manlilikha ng Bayan or the National Living Treasures is the highest honor given by the State to traditional folk artists. It is given to a citizen or a group of citizens engaged in any traditional art uniquely Filipino, whose distinctive skills have reached such a high level of technical and artistic excellence and have been passed on to and widely practiced by the present generation in his/her community with the same degree of technical and artistic competence;

**WHEREAS**, Whang-Od Oggay is a Filipina tattoo artist who is a member of the Butbut tribe from Buscalan, Kalinga;

**WHEREAS**, Whang-Od is considered as the oldest and last "mambabatok" or traditional Kalinga tattooist;

**WHEREAS**, for more than 80 years, Whang-Od has tattooed the warriors and women of her tribe and has been practicing the ancient art of tattoo called "batok", a technique which involves hammering ink into the skin using the spike of calamansi tree attached to a bamboo stick dipped in a mixture of charcoal and water;

**WHEREAS**, Whang-Od's village has become a tourist attraction as local and foreign tourists visit her to experience her craft;

**WHEREAS**, at nearly 100 years of age, Whang-Od has preserved her tribe's indigenous customs and traditions by dedicating her life to the mastery of Kalinga ancient art of tattooing;

**WHEREAS**, Whang-Od is the lone pillar that is keeping this unique heritage alive as she continues to practice her craft and pass it on to her niece;

**WHEREAS**, an online campaign has been launched to have Whang-Od declared as a National Artist;

**WHEREAS**, Whang-Od's contribution to her native craft as well as the rarity of her situation should not go unrecognized and warrants nomination from no less than this august body;

**WHEREAS**, bestowing Whang-Od the GAMABA or the National Living Treasures award does not only recognize the beauty and grace of the ancient art of tattooing but also ensures that such Filipino heritage will survive and continue to exist.

**BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, to express the sense of the Senate to nominate Whang-Od Oggay for the Gawad sa Manlilikha ng Bayan (GAMABA) or the National Living Treasures Award for her immense contribution in promoting and preserving Filipino traditional folk art .

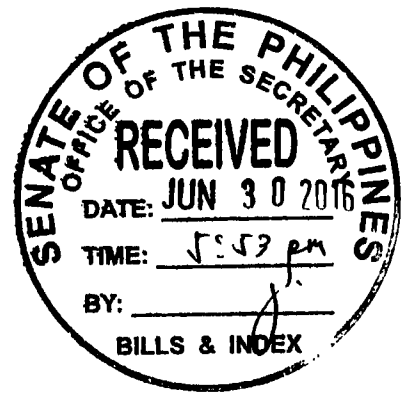
Adopted,



**MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY**

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

SENATE  
P. S. Res No. 3



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Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

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### RESOLUTION

**DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES TO INQUIRE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE MANILA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY (MIAA) MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 8, SERIES OF 2014, PROVIDING FOR THE INTEGRATION OF FIVE HUNDRED FIFTY PESO (P550)-INTERNATIONAL PASSENGER SERVICE CHARGE (IPSC) OR AIRPORT TERMINAL FEE INTO AIRLINE TICKETS**

**WHEREAS**, under Section 18, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, the State affirms labor as a primary social economic force. It shall protect the rights of workers and promote their welfare;

**WHEREAS**, under Section 35 of Republic Act No. 8042, as amended by Republic Act 10022, Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) are exempted from paying the travel tax and airport terminal fee;

**WHEREAS**, the MIAA issued Memorandum Circular No. 8, Series of 2014, on the implementing guidelines for the integration of IPSC or airport terminal fee into the airline tickets at the point of sale;

**WHEREAS**, MIAA Memorandum Circular No. 8, Series of 2014, requires all passengers, whether exempt or non-exempt, including OFWs, to pay the IPSC or airport terminal fee;

**WHEREAS**, according to MIAA, the purpose of the policy is to decongest and ease the traffic in airports. However, due to the implementation of the said memorandum circular, OFWs are forced to pay the terminal fee and line up for refunds;

**WHEREAS**, during the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress, the Senate conducted a public hearing in aid of legislation on Proposed Senate Resolution Nos. 986<sup>1</sup> and 1015<sup>2</sup> regarding MIAA Memorandum Circular No. 8, Series of 2014;

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<sup>1</sup> filed by this representation

<sup>2</sup> filed by Sen. Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III

**WHEREAS**, through all the discussions, it was established that:

1. it is not impossible to adopt a computer system that will allow recognition of the exemption of OFWs or the online verification of documents showing exemption of the OFWs and other locally-recognized exempt passengers;
2. the integration of the IPSC or airport terminal fee into the payment of airline tickets is not urgent and that there would be no loss of profit on the part of the government;
3. the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) expressed its willingness to share its database of OFWs with the airlines to ease the creation of an automated system to exempt such OFWs and other locally-recognized exempt passengers;

**WHEREAS**, 20 Senators of the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress signed Senate Resolution No. 1179 strongly urging the MIAA Board of Directors to suspend the implementation of and recall of MIAA Memorandum Circular No. 8, Series of 2014;

**WHEREAS**, the implementation of the said memorandum circular has raised questions as to how much has been collected from OFWs and how much in non-refunded OFW payments does MIAA has in its possession;

**WHEREAS**, the continued implementation of MIAA Memorandum Circular No. 8, Series of 2014 has resulted in the imposition of unjust and undue burden on OFWs;

**WHEREAS**, it is the duty of the Senate, by policy or by law, to give full protection to labor, particularly to our OFWs;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE**, as it is hereby resolved to direct the proper Senate Committees to inquire, in aid of legislation, on the Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA) Memorandum Circular No. 8, Series of 2014, providing for the integration of five hundred fifty peso (P550)-International Passenger Service Charge (IPSC) or airport terminal fee into airline tickets.

Adopted,

  
**MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY**