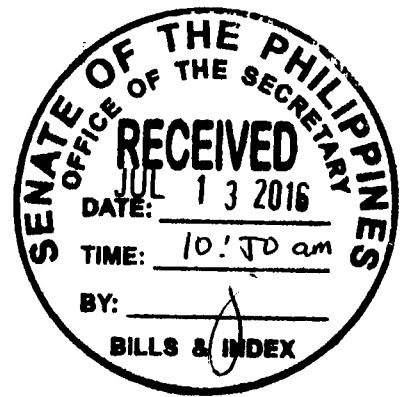


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



SENATE

P. S. Res. No. 8

Introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri

RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES TO MANDATE
GOVERNMENT OFFICES TO STRICTLY OBSERVE AND IMPLEMENT THE LAW
ON MANDATORY RANDOM DRUG TESTING IN SUPPORT OF THE DRUG-FREE
WORKPLACE PROGRAM OF THE GOVERNMENT

WHEREAS, public office is a public trust, public officers and employees must, at all times, be accountable to the people, serve them with utmost responsibility, integrity, loyalty, and efficiency; act with patriotism and justice, and lead modest lives.

WHEREAS, the Duterte Administration is seriously committed to regain public trust in the public service and to prove to the people that all government workers are proper and trustworthy, thus it mandates that all government officials and employees shall be drug-free and must set an example to the public in its all out fight against dangerous and illegal drugs.

WHEREAS, law enforcement agencies have stepped up their campaign against illegal drug trade after the new Administration pronounced its hard-line policy against drug trafficking and abuse.

WHEREAS, as part of its campaign, the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) has intensified its effort to pursue high-value targets (HVTs) defined to include priority targets, government employees, elected officials, law enforcers, foreign nationals, drug group members, armed drug group members, and other well-known personalities.

WHEREAS, from January to December 2015, PDEA, in collaboration with the Philippine National Police (PNP), the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), the Bureau of Customs (BoC) and other law enforcement agencies (OLEAs), arrested 37 foreign nationals, 103 government employees, 63 elected officials, 31 law enforcers, 102 drug group leaders/members, 248 drug den owners, 10 armed group members, six (6) target-listed suspects, 47 wanted-listed suspects, 571 drug suspects from high-impact operations, and 603 other HVTs.

WHEREAS, culled from the PDEA report above, a total of 197 elected officials, government employees and law enforcement officers were arrested for dangerous drugs in 2015, and that, in 2013 and 2014, a total of 138 and 190 public officials and employees were arrested for violating anti-drug laws, respectively.

WHEREAS, for the period 2013 to 2015, government workers arrested in anti-drug operations increased by 43 percent, climbing to an alarming total of 538 in a span of three years.

WHEREAS, the use of dangerous drugs leads to employee impairment while at work including lower productivity, poor decision-making, increased accidents and reduced team effort.

WHEREAS, due to the significant increase in the number of public officials and employees caught doing activities involving illegal drugs, the PDEA sought the assistance of the PNP to help catch government workers who are violating Republic Act No. 9165 or the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002.

WHEREAS, section 36(d) of Republic Act No. 9165 or Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002 provides that all officers and employees of public office shall be subjected to undergo a random drug test, and in connection with that, the Civil Service Commission promulgated rules and regulations to implement said section including the conduct of random drug testing of public officials and employees to ensure a Drug-Free Workplace to control and prevent the use of dangerous drugs.

WHEREAS, officials and members of the PNP recently submitted themselves to mandatory drug testing in compliance to Section 36(e) of the Comprehensive Dangerous Drugs Act of 2002 as well as to carry on the Administration's policy against illegal drug use and abuse.

WHEREAS, in the exigency of public service, to promote transparency, integrity and competence in the workplace, and in furtherance of giving importance to trust entrusted by the public to government office, the strict observance and implementation of the law as regards mandatory random drug testing must be strictly enforced and advocated in all government offices and agencies.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED TO express the sense of the Senate of the Philippines to mandate government offices to strictly observe and implement the law on mandatory random drug testing in support of the drug-free workplace program of the government.



JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI