## SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

**Second Regular Session** 

Senate Secretary

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SENATE P. S. Res No. 463

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## Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

## RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE BIRD FLU OUTBREAK IN PAMPANGA AND PROMOTE BIOSECURITY MEASURES IN POULTRY AND GAMEFOWL FARMS

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 15 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them;

WHEREAS, the province of Pampanga has declared a state of calamity following an outbreak of bird flu virus in the town of San Luis<sup>1</sup>;

**WHEREAS,** Gov. Lilia Pineda said although the avian flu virus only affected one town, there were seven other towns covered by the 7-kilometer radius of the quarantine area: Apalit, Candaba, Minalin, Sta. Ana, Sto. Tomas, Mexico, San Simon. Also covered was the City of San Fernando<sup>2</sup>;

WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture (DA) said around 200,000 chicken, ducks and quails will be "culled" or killed within the 1-km radius of the six affected farms to prevent the spread of the Avian Influenza - which can cause illness and death to animals and humans<sup>3</sup>;

**WHEREAS,** DA Sec. Manny Piñol, however, clarified that it would still be safe to eat poultry and poultry products as only a small fraction of the country's supply was affected. He said no reports of human infection had been reported because of the outbreak<sup>4</sup>;

WHEREAS, the national government, local government units, poultry and gamefowl farms should conduct and implement biosecurity measures;

WHEREAS, the DA and the Department of Environment and Natural Resources should also monitor migrating wild birds which stop at Pampanga, especially in Candaba swamp for it said that wild birds are possible carrier of bird flu;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> CNN Philippines News Website, Pampanga under state of calamity after bird flu outbreak, http://cnnphilippines.com/news/2017/08/11/Pampanga-under-state-of-calamity-due-to-bird-flu-outbreak.html <sup>2</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Ibid.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Ibid.

WHEREAS, it is imperative to conduct an inquiry to the bird flu outbreak for it can cause spread of disease in the whole country;

**BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** to direct the proper Senate committees to conduct and inquiry in aid of legislation, on the bird flu outbreak in Pampanga and promote biosecurity measures in poultry and gamefowl farms

Adopted,

MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY