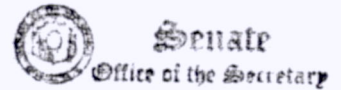


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Third Regular Session )



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SENATE  
P.S. Res. No. 818

RECEIVED BY \_\_\_\_\_

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**INTRODUCED BY SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO**

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**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATUS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10845 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ANTI-AGRICULTURAL SMUGGLING ACT OF 2016, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF ENSURING STRICT AND PROPER ENFORCEMENT OF THE LAW**

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines is a predominantly agricultural country, with vast resources for rice cultivation - the people's staple food. During the past years however, the country has experienced alarming agricultural shortages, particularly rice shortage, which made the country dependent to importing rice from other countries;

**WHEREAS**, aside from its role in development and food security, the agriculture sector plays a very critical role in the country, as it is one of the primary source of livelihood and employment making up 25 percent of the total employed in 2017;

**WHEREAS**, the illegal presence of smuggled agricultural products, especially if done in immense volumes, may saturate the market, thereby manipulating and distorting market prices. Particularly, lowering the market price is disadvantageous to our local farmers who cannot compete with the prevailing market price;

**WHEREAS**, on May 23, 2016, Republic Act (RA) No. 10845 otherwise known as the Anti-Agricultural Smuggling Act was passed into law;

**WHEREAS**, Section 3 of RA 10845 classifies the crime of large-scale agricultural smuggling as economic sabotage if it involves sugar, corn, pork, poultry, garlic, onion, carrots, fish, and cruciferous vegetables, in its raw