

SENATE

P. S. RES. No. 827

'18 AUG -8 / P12 :49

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

Introduced by Senator Ralph G. Recto

**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE DECREASING FISHERIES OUTPUT AND RISING GAS PRICES AND THEIR EFFECTS ON FISH PRICES, EVALUATING THE POTENTIAL PROVISION OF GAS SUBSIDY TO SUBSISTENCE FILIPINO FISHER FOLK, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF MAXIMIZING FISHING OPPORTUNITIES WHILE ENSURING THE SUSTAINABILITY OF FISHERIES AND FISHING COMMUNITIES**

**WHEREAS**, Article XIII, Section 7 of the 1987 Constitution states that the State shall provide support to subsistence fisher folk through appropriate technology and research, adequate financial, production, and marketing assistance, and other services;

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act (R.A.) No. 8550 otherwise known as The Philippine Fisheries Code of 1998 provides that it is a declared policy of the State to achieve food security as the overriding consideration in the utilization, management, development, conservation and protection of fishery resources in order to provide the food needs of the population;

**WHEREAS**, R.A. No. 8550 likewise provides that the State shall ensure the attainment of (a) conservation, protection and sustained management of the country's fishery and aquatic resources; *and*, (b) poverty alleviation and the provision of supplementary livelihood among municipal fisher folk;

**WHEREAS**, as the year-to-date inflation averaged 4.3% which is higher than the upper end of the Government's announced target range of 3.0%  $\pm$  1.0 percentage point for 2018, inflation rate on fish and seafood also registered an uptick at 11.7% in Q2 2018 compared to 7.7% in Q2 2017<sup>1</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, in an economic bulletin posted by the Department of Finance (DOF), fish consumer price index (CPI) rose by 7.5% in 2017 and 12.1% in Q1 2018. In June 2018, fish CPI further rose to 11.2% and contributed to 0.6 percentage points to the total inflation<sup>2</sup>;

<sup>1</sup> Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas. (2018). *Inflation Report Q2 2018*. Retrieved from [http://www.bsp.gov.ph/downloads/Publications/2018/IR2qtr\\_2018.pdf](http://www.bsp.gov.ph/downloads/Publications/2018/IR2qtr_2018.pdf)

<sup>2</sup> Department of Finance. (July 26, 2018). *DOF Economic Bulletin on Fisheries Production*. Retrieved from [https://www.dof.gov.ph/index.php/economic\\_bulletin/dof-economic-bulletin-on-fisheries-production/](https://www.dof.gov.ph/index.php/economic_bulletin/dof-economic-bulletin-on-fisheries-production/)