



18 OCT 24 AM 11:00
[Handwritten signature]

SENATE
P. S. Res No. 925

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE OVERSUPPLY OF TOMATOES THAT RESULTED TO THE DECREASE OF FARM GATE PRICES FROM FIFTY FIVE PESOS (P55) PER KILO TO FIVE PESOS (P5) PER KILO IN KALAYAAN, LAGUNA

1 WHEREAS, Article XII, Section 1 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides
2 the State shall promote industrialization and full employment based on sound
3 agricultural development and agrarian reform, through industries that make full and
4 efficient use of human and natural resources, and which are competitive in both
5 domestic and foreign markets. However, the State shall protect Filipino enterprises
6 against unfair foreign competition and trade practices;

7 WHEREAS, the Department of Agriculture (DA) is mandated as the primary
8 government agency responsible for the promotion of agricultural development by
9 providing a framework, public investments, and support services needed for domestic
10 and export-oriented business enterprises. It shall be concerned to improve farm
11 income and generate work opportunities for farmers, fishermen and other rural
12 workers. It shall encourage people's participation in agricultural development through
13 sectoral representation in agricultural policy-making bodies so that the policies, plans
14 and programs are formulated and executed to satisfy their needs. It shall also use a
15 bottom-up self-reliant farm system approach that will emphasize social justice, equity,
16 productivity and sustainability in the use of agricultural resources;

17 WHEREAS, an article from the Philippine Star, dated October 9, 2018, reported
18 that the DA Director De Mesa admitted that there has been an oversupply of tomatoes
19 for the past three months;

20 WHEREAS, the oversupply of tomatoes drove the farm gate prices down from
21 fifty five pesos (P55) per kilo to five pesos (P5) per kilo;

22 WHEREAS, an article from the Daily Tribune, dated October 10, 2018, reported
23 that Manila and Quezon City returned small-sized tomatoes among an oversupply from
24 other towns costing the farmers an estimated loss of 4 million pesos;

25 WHEREAS, traders from Manila refused to buy the tomatoes harvested by a
26 community of around forty (40) tomato farmers from Barangay San Antonio, Kalayaan,
27 Laguna;

28 WHEREAS, about 40 to 50 hectares of land are planted with tomatoes and the
29 production costs approximately two hundred thousand pesos (P200,000) per hectare;

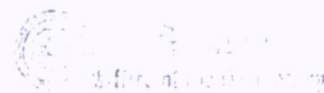
30 WHEREAS, the oversupply forced the price down to only P100 per box of 21
31 kilo grams of tomatoes from P500 until traders had to refuse the excess.

32 WHEREAS, a Senate inquiry on the manner is necessary in order to review the
33 matter and come up with measures that will ease our farmers and ensure their income;

34 BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to direct the proper Senate
35 Committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, the oversupply of tomatoes
36 that resulted to the decrease of farm gate prices from fifty five pesos (P55) per kilo to
37 five pesos (P5) per kilo in Kalayaan, Laguna.

Adopted,


MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY
Senator



SENATE
P. S. Res No. 926

*18 OCT 24 A11:33

151

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN
INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED PROLIFERATION
OF SCHOOL SUPPLIES LADEN WITH HIGH LEVELS OF LEAD IN THE
COUNTRY

1 WHEREAS, school supplies containing lead were reported to be present in the
2 Philippine market¹;

3 WHEREAS, according to EcoWaste Coalition, of the eight school bags bought
4 and analyzed, six were found to contain lead in the range of 679 to 3,588 parts per
5 million (ppm)²;

6 WHEREAS, Lead is prohibited in the manufacture of school supplies as per
7 DENR Administrative Order 2013-24, or the Chemical Control Order for Lead and
8 Lead Compounds, which also bans the use of paints with lead content above 90 ppm
9 in the production of toys and a wide array of children's products after December 31,
10 2016³;

11 WHEREAS, Health experts do agree that children are most susceptible to lead
12 poisoning. Lead exposure early in life can have many and untreatable
13 consequences, including reduced intelligence, shortened attention span, and
14 behavioral issues such as anti-social and violent behavior⁴;

¹ Manila Bulletin News Website, Safety of school supplies eyed by EcoWaste Coalition, <https://news.mb.com.ph/2018/05/21/safety-of-school-supplies-eyed-by-ecowaste-coalition/>

² Ibid.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Philstar News Website, Keep children away from toxic lead, <https://www.philstar.com/lifestyle/health-and-family/2017/10/23/1751680/keep-children-away-toxic-lead>


15 WHEREAS, according to The World Health Organization (WHO), lead
16 poisoning is preventable, yet the Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation has
17 estimated that, based on 2016 data, lead exposure accounted for 540 000 deaths
18 and 13.9 million years lost to disability and death due to long-term health effects,
19 with the highest burden in developing regions⁵;

20 WHEREAS, a particular concern is the role of lead exposure in the
21 development of intellectual disability in children⁶;

22 WHEREAS, the Senate and other concerned agencies should ensure that
23 school supplies tainted with lead and other hazardous chemicals do not reach the
24 local market through a more vigilant monitoring of commercial activities and
25 stringent testing of these products;

26 BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to direct the proper Senate
27 committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the reported proliferation
28 of school supplies laden with high levels of lead in the country.

Adopted,


MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY
Senator

⁵ World Health Organization Website, International lead poisoning prevention week of action,
http://www.who.int/ipcs/lead_campaign/objectives/en/

⁶ Ibid.