

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE }
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES }
First Regular Session }

5 JAN 11 A9:40

**SENATE
RESOLUTION NO. 151**

RECEIVED BY: _____

**A RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY PROPOSING TO THE OFFICE OF THE
PRESIDENT TO STAY THE TRANSFER OF REGIONAL OFFICES OF
REGION IX FROM ZAMBOANGA CITY TO PAGADIAN CITY**

Introduced by Senator Edgardo J. Angara

WHEREAS, the Government is experiencing a fiscal crisis;

WHEREAS, the President, in its Administrative Order 103 directed the continued adoption of austerity measures in the Government;

WHEREAS, ancillary to the call for austerity measures, the President ordered the National Government to save and "undertake cost-cutting measures to reduce expenses and channel its scarce resources towards the implementation of the Ten-point Legacy Agenda;"

WHEREAS, upon the instructions of the President, Executive Secretary Eduardo R. Ermita issued Memorandum Circular 75 dated 12 November 2004, ordering the transfer of all regional offices of departments and agencies to transfer from Zamboanga City to Pagadian City as soon as practicable;

WHEREAS, the transfer order was issued pursuant to Executive Order No. 429 issued by President Corazon C. Aquino dated 12 October 1990 reorganizing the administrative regions in Mindanao and designating Pagadian City as the regional center and Zamboanga City as the commercial and industrial center;

WHEREAS, EO 429 was superseded by Executive Order No. 325 issued by President Fidel V. Ramos on 12 April 1996 mandating the re-organization of the Regional Development Councils throughout the country and authorizing NEDA to adopt the rules to implement the specific provisions of the said EO;

WHEREAS, the NEDA issued on 20 August 1996 the Rules and Regulations implementing EO 325 and designated Zamboanga City as the regional center for Region IX;

WHEREAS, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo issued Executive Order No. 36 dated 19 September 2001 re-organizing the composition of Region IX, but failed however to expressly identify its regional capital;

WHEREAS, the Regional Development Council IX in Resolution No. IX 32-2001 proposed to the Office of the President an amendment to Executive Order 36 to explicitly identify Zamboanga City as the Regional Government Center of Region IX;

WHEREAS, prior to and notwithstanding the issuance of EO 429, all the regional offices of Region IX operate and function from their respective offices in Zamboanga City;

WHEREAS, the regional offices in Zamboanga City have been operating exceedingly well and the transfer order would abruptly uproot and seriously dislocate more than 8,000 personnel at a time when the country is experiencing fiscal crisis;

WHEREAS, the President's instruction for the transfer of departments with regional offices in Zamboanga City to Pagadian City would cost the National Government an estimated Php 2 Billion;

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, that the President of the Republic of the Philippines be urged to stay the transfer of the regional offices of Region IX from Zamboanga City to Pagadian City in view of the need to channel the country's limited resources to far more urgent matters.

Adopted.


EDGARDO J. ANGARA