

SENATE  
P.S. Resolution No. 300

20 JAN 27 P 6:17

Introduced by **SENATOR IMEE R. MARCOS** RECEIVED BY: 

**RESOLUTION**  
**URGING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN**  
**INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE CONTINUED INCAPACITY**  
**OF THE SUGAR REGULATORY ADMINISTRATION (SRA) IN**  
**STRENGTHENING THE SUGAR INDUSTRY**

**WHEREAS**, Article XIII, Section 5 of the 1987 Constitution states, "*The State shall recognize the right of farmers, farmworkers, and landowners, as well as cooperatives, and other independent farmers' organizations to participate in the planning, organization, and management of the program, and shall provide support to agriculture through appropriate technology and research, and adequate financial, production, marketing, and other support services*";

**WHEREAS**, a plethora of laws were enacted to strengthen and assist the sugar industry, as follows: in 1986, Executive Order No. 18 was issued creating the "Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA)" to promote the growth and development of the sugar industry through greater and significant participation of the private sector, and to improve the working condition of laborers. And, Republic Act (R.A.) No. 6982 entitled, "*An Act Strengthening the Social Amelioration Program in the Sugar Industry, Providing the Mechanics for its Implementation, and for Other Purposes*" and R.A. No. 10659 entitled, the "*Sugarcane Industry Development Act of 2015*" which aims to promote the competitiveness of the sugarcane industry and maximize the utilization of sugarcane resources, and improve the incomes of farmers and farm workers,

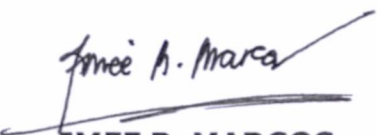
through improved productivity, product diversification, job generation, and increased efficiency of sugar mills.

**WHEREAS**, the continued inability to spend the allocation on the myriad needs of the sugar industry such as farm-to-mill roads, state of the art mills and processing technologies, land reform, agrarian reform documentation, etc. resulting in the reduction of the original two billion pesos (P 2,000,000,000.00) to one billion pesos (P 1,000,000,000.00) in 2018 which was reduced further to five hundred million pesos (P 500,000,000.00) in 2019 and 2020;

**WHEREAS**, an almost unanimous clamor for change in the SRA from the sugar industry stakeholders ranging from the major sugar planters to the marginal farmers and farm workers, alleging that of the much-reduced five-hundred million pesos (P 500,000,000.00) budget, a mere fifty-five million pesos (P 55,000,000.00) for farm-to-mill roads was actually disbursed;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, urging the appropriate Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, into the continued incapacity of the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) in strengthening the sugar industry.

*Adopted,*

  
**IMEE R. MARCOS**