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## THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE ) REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES ) First Regular Session

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SENATE

HECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senators Aquilino Q. Pimentel Jr., Sergio R. Osmeña III, Juan Ponce Enrile, Panfilo M. Lacson, Jinggoy E. Estrada, Alfredo S. Lim and Egardo J. Angara

## RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON NATINAL DEFENSE TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE PROMOTION SYSTEM OF THE ARMED FORCES.

WHEREAS, the Constitution provides for a professional armed forces as protector of the people.:

Section 3, Article II. "xxx The Armed Forces of the Philippines is the protector of the people and the State. xxx."

Section 5(3), Article XVI. "Professionalism in the armed forces and adequate remuneration and benefits of its members shall be the prime concern of the State. The armed forces shall be insulated from partisan politics."

WHEREAS, in order to have a professional armed forces, the government should uphold a promotions system that allows deserving senior, competent and best qualified military officers to be promoted on the basis of merit, reputation and service record;

WHEREAS, the present promotions system is embodied in SOP Nr. 10, 1995. Edition entitled "Officers Promotion System in the Armed Forces of the Philippines" which is based on Republic Act No. 291, otherwise known as the "AFP Personnel Management Act of 1948";

WHEREAS, on Friday, September 3, 2004, Army Lt. Col. Oscarlito P. Mapalo has complained publicly that the "Officers Promotions System in the Armed Forces of the Philippines" [SOP Nr. 10, 1995] contains subjective criteria that discriminate against qualified senior officers for promotion to the next grade, resulting in their being deferred or passed over by junior officers and that this situation has affected the morale of the senior officers of the Armed Forces;