


NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



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SENATE
Proposed Senate Resolution No. 740

Introduced by Senator Aquilino “Koko” Pimentel III

A RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO
CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE
ELECTION RESULTS WHICH ALLEGEDLY CAME FROM
ONLY ONE PRIVATE INTERNET PROTOCOL ADDRESS

1 **WHEREAS**, it is the policy of the State to ensure free, orderly,
2 honest, peaceful, credible and informed elections, plebiscites,
3 referenda, recall and other similar electoral exercises by improving on
4 the election process and adopting systems, which shall involve the use
5 of an automated election system that will ensure the secrecy and
6 sanctity of the ballot and all election, consolidation and transmission
7 documents in order that the process shall be transparent and credible
8 and that the results shall be fast, accurate and reflective of the genuine
9 will of the people¹;

10
11 **WHEREAS**, it is the mandate and authority of the Commission
12 on Elections (COMELEC) to prescribe the adoption and use of the most
13 suitable technology of demonstrated capability taking into account the
14 situation prevailing in the area and the funds available for the purpose²;

15
16 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to this mandate, COMELEC awarded to
17 the joint venture of Smartmatic USA Corp. and local partner SMMT-

¹ Section 1, Republic Act No. 8436, as amended by Republic Act No. 9369

² *Ibid*

1 TMI 2016 (Smartmatic Philippines) the P402.7-million contract to
2 provide the elections software to be used in the 2022 national and local
3 elections³;

4
5 **WHEREAS**, since the Philippines shifted to automated polls in
6 2010, Smartmatic has secured the most number of COMELEC
7 contracts. While the firm claims it is 100% privately owned and has no
8 political ties, Smartmatic's credibility was adversely affected following
9 reports of alleged poll irregularities in past Philippine elections. These
10 included a delayed transmission of election results to the transparency
11 server, known as the seven-hour glitch, in 2019⁴;

12
13 **WHEREAS**, former Secretary of Information and
14 Communications Technology, Officer-in-Charge, Eliseo Rio Jr. and his
15 team of computer forensic examiners allege that election rigging has
16 taken place in the 2022 national and local elections. Rio and his team
17 discovered that allegedly 98.8 percent of Metro Manila precinct results
18 were received from only one private IP (internet protocol) address,
19 192.168.0.2, that allegedly 95.5 percent of Cavite results came from the
20 same 192.168.0.2, and that allegedly 81 percent of Batangas results still
21 came from 192.168.0.2, among other alleged anomalies⁵;

22
23 **WHEREAS**, Rio and his team have observed that transmission
24 logs have shown that most election returns received by the
25 Transparency Server in the first hour of counting did not pass the
26 networks of the telcos, but were preloaded by a secret man-in-the-
27 middle gateway, a gatekeeper, with private IP address 192.168.0.2⁶;

28
29 **WHEREAS**, the alleged incidents have led Rio and his team to
30 believe that whoever manipulated the Transparency Server results

³ Dona Z. Pazzibugan, Meg Adonis. *Smartmatic bags P 403-M Comelec contract for 2022 elections*. Inquirer.net. May 12, 2021. <<https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1430593/smartmatic-bags-p-403-m-comelec-contract-for-2022-elections>>

⁴ DWIGHT DE LEON. *Smartmatic bags half of P6-billion poll contracts for 2022*. Rappler. FEB 14, 2022. <<https://www.rappler.com/nation/elections/smartmatic-bags-half-poll-contracts-2022/>>

⁵ Facebook Post of Jairus Bondoc. July 26, 2023. <<https://fb.watch/mknn6P2BA5/>>

⁶ *Ibid.*

1 already knew the outcome of the 2022 Election even before votes were
2 counted. Rio has presented his findings to the Global Transparency and
3 Transformation Advocates Network on July 23, 2023⁷;

4

5 **WHEREAS**, leaving these questions unresolved amounts to
6 sanctioning electoral fraud, permitting misuse of public money, and
7 accepting the failure of the democratic process;

8

9 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** as it is hereby
10 resolved, to direct the appropriate Senate Committee to conduct an
11 inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the election results which allegedly
12 came from only one private internet protocol address.

Adopted,


AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III

⁷ A video version of Rio's presentation is accessible via the July 26, 2023 Facebook post of Jairus Bondoc. <<https://fb.watch/mknn6P2BA5/>>