



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

23 SEP 27 P 7:34

**SENATE
P.S.R. No. 814**

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by **Senator Risa Hontiveros**

**RESOLUTION
CALLING FOR AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION INTO ILLEGAL
RECRUITMENT ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY PERSONS AND ENTITIES
LOCATED OUTSIDE OF THE PHILIPPINES**

WHEREAS, a recent news report recently implicated Alpha Assistenza SRL (*Società Responsabilità Limitata*), whose website describes it as a limited liability company based in Italy providing immigration consultancy services, in what was described as a "recruitment scam" victimizing Filipinos;

WHEREAS, it is alleged that Alpha Assistenza SRL provided over 400 Filipino "victims" with falsified *Nulla Osta*, a document issued by Italian immigration authorities authorizing a non-European Union national to apply for a work visa at an Italian embassy or consulate;

WHEREAS, the falsified *Nulla Osta* resulted in the rejection of the victims' applications when the said documents were presented to the Italy Visa Application Center (VIA PIASI Center);

WHEREAS, the Filipino applicants were met at the VIA PIASI Center located in Makati City by a Philippine agent designated in electronic messages sent by Krizelle Respicio, Alpha Assistenza SRL's Chief Executive Officer and Immigration Consultant;

WHEREAS, the complainants alleged that they had paid the company "large sums of money" to facilitate their relatives' travel to Italy for work;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 8042, otherwise known as the Migrant Workers & Overseas Filipinos Act, defines illegal recruitment as, among others, any act of canvassing, enlisting, contracting, transporting, utilizing, hiring, or procuring for employment abroad, whether for profit or not, when undertaken by a person or entity not licensed or authorized for the purpose;

WHEREAS, under Republic Act No. 11641 or the Department of Migrant Workers (DMW) Act, the DMW, in cooperation with the Department of Justice, and the Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking, is mandated to investigate, pursue, and help prosecute illegal recruitment and human trafficking cases;

WHEREAS, the State is mandated by the Constitution to afford full protection to laborers, both local and overseas, organized and unorganized, and to promote full employment and equality of employment opportunities for all;

WHEREAS, according to a report prepared by the *Ministerio del Lavoro e delle Politiche Sociali* of the Republic of Italy, there are more than 160,000 Filipinos in Italy, most of them working in the domestic and family sector; '

WHEREAS, because of the principle of territoriality, our statutes are generally only effective within Philippine territory; and

WHEREAS, there is thus an urgent need to protect Filipinos from possible illegal recruitment perpetuated by companies based overseas.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED TO CALL FOR AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION INTO ILLEGAL RECRUITMENT ACTIVITIES CONDUCTED BY PERSONS AND ENTITIES LOCATED OUTSIDE OF THE PHILIPPINES.

Adopted.


RISA HONTIVEROS
Senator