NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session



24 MAY 21 P1:04

SENATE

P. S. RES. No. <u>1032</u>

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Introduced by SEN. WIN GATCHALIAN

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALLEGED HUMAN TRAFFICKING AND INVOLVEMENT IN SCAMMING ACTIVITIES, VIOLATING THE CYBERCRIME PREVENTION ACT OF 2012, WITHIN MULTINATIONAL VILLAGE IN PARAÑAQUE CITY, WITH AN END VIEW OF CRAFTING A LEGISLATION OR POLICY RECOMMENDATION, AS MAY BE NECESSARY

WHEREAS, we received a letter dated 08 May 2024 from a group of
 homeowners at Multinational Village in Parañaque City with a subject a plea for help.
 They are appealing to the national security authorities to conduct an inquiry over the
 alleged growing population of foreign nationals in their community¹;
 WHEREAS, the homeowners allege that the "City Garden", an enclave within

5 WHEREAS, the homeowners allege that the "City Garden", an enclave within 6 their village, is exclusively populated by foreign nationals, wherein at least fifty (50) 7 foreigners are crammed inside rented housing units²;

8 WHEREAS, on 02 May 2024, in a joint effort to combat illegal online gambling 9 and other illicit activities, Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) 10 and the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG-NCR) conducted a raid 11 inside a house in Multinational Village, specifically located at 18 Teheran Street, for 12 violation of Republic Act (RA) No. 9208, otherwise known as the "Anti-Trafficking in 13 Persons Act of 2003", RA No. 562, otherwise known as "Alien Registration Act of 1950",

¹ del Rio, M., "*Village residents want Chinese presence probed*" (02 April 2024), available at: https://manilastandard.net/news/314431261/village-residents-want-chinese-presence-probed.html (Date last accessed: 14 May 2024). ² *Id*.

and RA No. 10175, otherwise known as "Cybercrime Prevention Act of 2012". It
resulted in the capture of seven (7) male and three (3) female Chinese nationals who
are allegedly engaged in scamming activities such as love and cryptocurrency scams.
Further, one (1) Filipino bodyguard was arrested for possession of an undocumented
.45 caliber pistol³;

6 WHEREAS, the ten (10) Chinese nationals are suspected to be fugitives from 7 the earlier raid on a large gaming compound in Bamban, Tarlac which took place 8 earlier this year in March⁴;

9 WHEREAS, the authorities were able to successfully rescue nine (9) Filipino 10 female workers and confiscate approximately seventy-five (75) mobile phones, thirty 11 (30) desktop computers, fifty (50) laptops, assorted credit cards, two (2) cars, and 12 one (1) motorcycle, together with assorted Chinese government documents⁵;

WHEREAS, under the Expanded Anti-Trafficking in Persons Act, it is the policy of the State to protect the people from any threat of violation and exploitation, eliminate trafficking in persons, and mitigate pressures for involuntary migration and servitude of persons;

WHEREAS, based on the foregoing, there is a need to determine the lapses and loopholes in government processes and national security that led to the increased crimes mostly involving foreign nationals which poses a serious and great threat to the security and safety of Filipino citizens; otherwise, it will be a great disservice to the people, as well as dereliction of duty in international treaties and conventions to which Philippines is a signatory or a member thereof, if the government fails to protect its citizen from the serious illegal activities prevailing within a gated village;

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate, to direct the appropriate Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the alleged human trafficking and involvement in scamming activities, violating the

³ PAGCOR: "2 Raids net 10 Chinese, 25 pinoys for illegal games, online scams" (02 May 2024), available at: https://www.pagcor.ph/press-releases/2-raids-net-10-chinese-26-pinoys-for-illegal-games-online-scams.php#:~:text=games%2C%20online%20scams-

^{,2%20}Raids%20net%2010%20Chinese%2C%2026,for%20illegal%20games%2C%20online%20scam s&text=The%20Philippine%20Amusement%20and%20Gaming,and%20Parañaque%20City%20since %20Tuesday. (Date last accessed: 14 May 2024).

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ Id.

- 1 Cybercrime Prevention Act of 2012, within Multinational Village in Parañaque City, with
- 2 an end view of crafting a legislation or policy recommendation, as may be necessary.

Adopted,

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WIN GATCHALIAN