

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

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P.S. Res. No. 46

RECEIVED BY: JS

Introduced by Sen. Juan Ponce Enrile

A RESOLUTION

URGING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE ALLEGED ILLEGAL INVESTMENT SYNDICATE INVOLVING THE PERFORMANCE INVESTMENT PRODUCTS CORPORATION (PIPC) WHICH HAS CAUSED LOSSES OF MILLIONS OF DOLLARS WORTH OF INVESTMENTS IN FOREIGN EXCHANGE TRADE, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF RECOMMENDING IMMEDIATE REMEDIAL MEASURES TO PROTECT THE INVESTING PUBLIC

WHEREAS, the Performance Investment Products Corporation (PIPC) is a private firm, headed by a certain Michael Liew, registered at the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) for nine years now as a research company. However, contrary to what its primary license allows, PIPC reportedly engaged in foreign exchange trade;

WHEREAS, the alleged investment syndicate targeted private investors who were required to invest a minimum of \$40,000.00, with a guaranteed average of 12 % return per annum;

WHEREAS, according to reports, between 2,000 to 3,000 individuals have already invested in PIPC, and that the amount involved in the alleged scam is estimated at about \$250 million;

WHEREAS, news reports further indicated that said Mr. Liew already fled the country for Singapore last June 20, 2007;

WHEREAS, the SEC has taken steps to investigate PIPC's operations following complaints from investors after the *Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas* (BSP) clarified that it has no jurisdiction over foreign exchange trading firms since the products they offered were not futures derivative instruments,

WHEREAS, SEC's investigation, however, has been hampered after the Supreme Court affirmed a decision of the lower courts, overturning the cease and desist order against PIPC;

WHEREAS, Mrs. Cristina Gonzalez-Tuason, representing herself to be the General Manager of PIPC, has asked the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) and Interpol to assist in locating the whereabouts of Michael Liew and claimed that indeed Mr. Liew had closed the company's bank accounts, leaving the investors no recourse to recover their investments;

WHEREAS, it is necessary to investigate this matter, in aid of legislation, to determine the machinations used by PIPC to perpetrate their scheme and circumvent the law;

Now, therefore, **BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, for the appropriate Senate committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, into the alleged illegal investment syndicate involving the PIPC which has caused losses of millions of dollars worth of investments in foreign exchange trade, with the end in view of recommending remedial measures to protect the investing public.

Adopted,



JUAN PONCE ENRILE
Senator