FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

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S E NA T E P.S. Res. 110

HECEIVED BY :

Introduced by Senator Villar

RESOLUTION

URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY, AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE/S TO CONDUCT AN URGENT INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ANENT THE RECENT DEVELOPMENTS ON JATROPHA (JATROPHA CURCAS) TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION RECENT STUDIES AND STATEMENTS MADE BY WORLD-RENOWNED FILIPINO AGRICULTURIST/SCIENTIST WILLIAM DAR WITH THE END-IN-VIEW OF FORMULATING A LONG-TERM AND MORE ECONOMICALLY FEASIBLE ENERGY PROGRAM FOR THE COUNTRY

Whereas, jatropha (Jatropha Curcas) is a drought resistant shrub or small tree, the seeds of which can be processed as jatropha oil which can be converted as bio-diesel;

Whereas, in the last two years, the government has been embarking on promoting jatropha's cultivation citing that it may be a solution to the country's continuous and growing dependence on imported oil;

Whereas, the recent policy of the government is the massive planting of jatropha trees which as studies would indicate has an economic life of thirty (35) years and can live up to fifty (50) years and grow fast, its height reaching three (3) to eight (8) meters;

Whereas, the great Filipino agriculturist/scientist William Dar said in an interview that an assessment of jatropha planting in the Philippines should be made, citing that right varieties and its economic feasibility should be studied anew;

Whereas, accordingly, as in other countries, the jatropha has not proven to be the "miracle tree" as it was reported to be;

Whereas, Filipino farmers are expecting that the jatropha tree planting will improve their livelihood and economic subsistence and thus, a truthful information by relevant government agencies on its viability and feasibility should be earnestly made so as not to bring false hopes;

Whereas, an urgent comprehensive inquiry that will best help the people and our farmers on jatropha trees should be made: Now therefore be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, To urge the Senate Committee on Energy, and other appropriate committee to conduct an urgent inquiry, in aid of legislation, anent the recent developments on Jatropha (Jatropha Carcus) taking into consideration recent studies and statements made by world-renowned Filipino agriculturist/scientist William Dar with the end-in-view of formulating a long-term and more economically feasible energy program for the country.

Adopted,

MANNY VILLAR