THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC) OF THE PHILIPPINES) Third Regular Session)

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BY:
BILLS & INTER

SENATE P.S. Resolution No. **567**

Introduced by Senator Richard J. Gordon

RESOLUTION COMMENDING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE SPECIAL ACTION FORCE FOR ITS ASSISTANCE IN TAKING INTO CUSTODY THE OFFICIALS OF THE PRESIDENTIAL COMMISSION FOR GOOD GOVERNMENT

Whereas, Article VI, Section 21 of the Philippine Constitution provides that "The Senate or the House of Representatives or any of its respective committees may conduct inquiries in aid of legislation in accordance with its duly published rules of procedure. The rights of persons appearing in, or affected by, such inquiries shall be respected";

Whereas, Section 1 of the Rules of the Senate on Conducting Investigations also provides that "The Senate or any of its Committees may conduct formal inquiries or investigations in aid of legislation in accordance with these Rules. Such inquiries may refer to the implementation or re-examination of any law or appropriation, or in connection with any proposed legislation, or will aid in the review or formulation of a new legislative policy or enactment. They may also extend to any and all matters vested by the Constitution in Congress and/or in the Senate alone";

Whereas, Section 17 of the same Rules further provides that "The Committee shall have the powers of an investigating committee, including the power to summon witnesses and take their testimony and to issue subpoena and subpoena duces tecum, signed by its Chairman, or in his absence by the Acting Chairman, and approved by the President. Within Metro Manila, such process shall be served by the Sergeant-at-Arms or his assistant. Outside of Metro Manila, service may be made by the police of a municipality or city upon the request of the Secretary";

Whereas, the Philippine National Police Special Action Force (PNP SAF) has been assigned to the Senate to promote security and enforce the law within its premises;

Whereas, the PNP SAF is an elite combat unit that has special training in security that helps accomplish its purpose in protecting the Senate;

Whereas, in the Senate Committee on Government Corporations and Public Enterprises investigation into the alleged misuse of funds of PCGG sequestered companies, warrants of arrests were issued to several officials of the PCGG due to their failure to attend such investigations;

Whereas, pursuant to the PNP SAF's duty to uphold the Constitution and the rule of law, and the Senate has the power the require the people to attend its investigations and the SAF assisted the senate in accomplishing its duties;

Now, therefore, be it resolved, as it is hereby resolved, to commend the Philippine National Police Special Action Force for its indispensable assistance in taking into custody the officials of the Presidential Commission on Good Government, upholding the powers of the Senate to inquire into the implementation of laws and to demand accountability from government for and on behalf of the people.

Adopted,

RICHARD J. GORDON