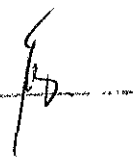


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session

SECRETARY  
8 JUN 23 1977

SENATE  
PSR No. 277

RECEIVED BY: 

---

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

---

**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICES TO INQUIRE INTO THE EFFECTS OF THE U.S. FEDERAL AVIATION ADMINISTRATION'S ADVISORY DOWNGRADING THE PHILIPPINES' AVIATION SAFETY OVERSIGHT CATEGORY, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF INTRODUCING REMEDIAL MEASURES TO ENABLE OUR CIVIL AVIATION SYSTEM TO COMPLY WITH INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND AVERT ANY FURTHER NEGATIVE REPERCUSSIONS ON THE NATIONAL ECONOMY**

*WHEREAS*, pursuant to the International Aviation Safety Assessment (IASA) Program of the United States, the US Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) conducts an assessment of the Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) of countries that has carriers flying to and from the US;

*WHEREAS*, recent assessment of the US FAA reflected a downgrade of the Philippines' aviation safety oversight category from Category 1 to Category 2 as a result of non-compliance with International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) safety standards for the oversight of Philippine air carrier operations;

*WHEREAS*, the downgrade to Category 2 means that the country lacks the laws or regulations needed for the certification and oversight of air carriers; it lacks the technical expertise, resources and organization to license air operations; and it does not have adequately trained and qualified technical personnel and does not provide adequate inspector guidance to ensure enforcement of minimum standards;

*WHEREAS*, as a result of the downgrade, Philippine air carriers will be permitted to continue current operations to the United States but will be under heightened FAA surveillance;

*WHEREAS*, following the downgrade, the United States cautioned its citizens based in the Philippines of the country's non-compliance to aviation security standards and strongly advised Americans travelling to and from the Philippines to fly to their destinations on international carriers from countries whose civil aviation authorities meet international aviation safety standards;

*WHEREAS*, members of the Philippine Travel Agencies Association expressed alarm over the FAA downgrade, saying it will surely cast a negative image of the Philippines as an unsafe destination with untrustworthy facilities and infrastructure, thereby dampening our tourism industry;

*WHEREAS*, Philippine Airlines (PAL), the only Filipino airline that flies to the United States, feeling the brunt of the downgrade asserts that it will seriously affect inbound and outbound tourism traffic, inbound balikbayan traffic and investment inflows to the Philippines;

*WHEREAS*, as a result of the downgrade, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo designated Transportation Secretary Leandro Mendoza to take over the Air Transportation Office in a concurrent capacity for three months and gave him a 90-day deadline to produce results that would enable the country's civil aviation system to meet international standards;

*WHEREAS*, the passage of the Civil Aviation Act is seen to give remedy to the situation, with the proposed bill converting ATO into a corporate entity, which will provide financial flexibility and enhance commercial operations and management efficiency;

*WHEREAS*, there is a need to inquire into the reasons for the downgrade to enable the Senate to craft remedial measures that will ensure that our civil aviation system meets international safety standards;

***NOW BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED***, that the Senate direct the Committee on Public Services to inquire into the effects of the U.S. Federal Aviation Administration's Advisory downgrading the Philippines Aviation Safety Oversight Category, with the end in view of introducing remedial measures to enable our civil aviation system to comply with international standards and avert any further negative repercussions on the national economy.

Adopted,



**LOREN LEGARDA**

Senator