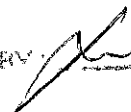


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SENATE

P. S. Res. No. 30

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR RALPH RECTO

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**A RESOLUTION  
DIRECTING THE COMMITTEES ON AGRICULTURE AND ON GOVERNMENT  
CORPORATIONS TO LOOK INTO THE IMPORTATIONS UNDER THE NATIONAL  
FOOD AUTHORITY RELATIVE TO TOTAL RICE PRODUCTION AND  
CONSUMPTION WITH THE PURPOSE OF PROTECTING THE INTERESTS OF  
LOCAL RICE PRODUCERS**

**WHEREAS**, it is stated in P.D. 1770 or the National Food Authority Act that it shall be the declared policy of the State to promote the integrated growth and development of the food industry so it can adequately function as an institution conscious of its social responsibilities, capable of maintaining an adequate and continuous food supply and contributing its proper share to the economy;

**WHEREAS**, the power to import is based on the certification of the National Food Authority Council, upon consultation with the Office of the President, that there is shortage of grains and/or their substitutes that may occur as a result of a shortfall in production, a critical demand-supply gap, a state of calamity or other verified reasons;

**WHEREAS**, the total Philippine rice production in 2009 is 10.6 million metric tons yielded in the 43,000 square kilometers areas used for harvest and rice production or 14% of the 300,000 square kilometers land area of the Philippines;

**WHEREAS**, the per capita rice consumption in the Philippines in 2009 is 119.92 kilograms translating to around 12.3 million metric tons of rice to sufficiently supply the estimated population of 97 million for the year;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippines still remains to be the world's largest importer of rice;

**WHEREAS**, according to Memorandum Circular No. AO-2K10-01-001 dated January 4, 2010, The National Food Authority (NFA) has allowed the private sector to import 163,000 metric tons (MT) of rice where 98,000 MT of which will come from Thailand; 25,000 MT from China; 25,000 MT from India; and 15,000 MT from Australia;

**WHEREAS**, in February 2010, a confirmed importation of another 200,000 metric tons (MT) to 250,000 MT of rice will take place this year;

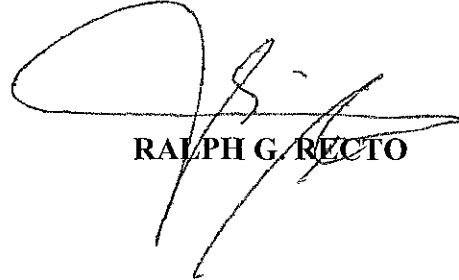
**WHEREAS**, private purchases in 2010 will take the country's imports to almost 2.5 million tons, exceeding the record 2.4 million tons bought in 2008;

**WHEREAS**, looking into the trend of imports of more than a decade ago, a tremendous climb is seen as only 207 MT of rice were imported in 1994 then climbed to 849,000 MT in 1996; 722,000 MT in 1997; and 2.17 million MT in 1998;

**WHEREAS**, about 1.38 million metric tons of rice was wiped out when the Philippines was ravaged by storms by the last quarter of 2009 and losses caused by El Niño may be as much as 816,372 metric tons of rice worth P12.24 billion this year;

**RESOLVED BY** the Senate to direct the Committee on Agriculture and Government Corporations to look into the importations under the national food authority relative to total rice production and consumption with the purpose of protecting the interests of local rice producers.

*Adopted,*



**RALPH G. RECTO**