FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

OFFEE OF THE SECRETARY

10 JL 28 P4:13

SENATE

P. S. RESOLUTION NO. 54

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POSENSD BY:

Introduced by Senator Francis N. Pangilinan

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD
TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION IN AID OF LEGISLATION
INTO THE ALLEGED EXCESSIVE PURCHASE AND IMPORTATION OF RICE
BY THE NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY, THE RICE SPOILAGE AND
WASTAGE IN NFA WAREHOUSES DUE TO OVERIMPORTATION, AND OTHER
ALLEGED CORRUPT PRACTICES IN THE MANAGEMENT OF FOOD SUPPLY AND
PURCHASE AND IMPORTATION PROTOCOLS OF THE NFA

WHEREAS, President Benigno Simeon C. Aquino III, in his State of the Nation Address on July 26, 2010, cited anomalies in the purchase and importation of rice of the National Food Authority and alleged that the excessive importation of rice resulted in the wastage and spoilage of hundreds of thousands of metric tons of rice stocked in NFA warehouses;

WHEREAS, President Aquino mentioned that in 2004, the Philippines had a shortage in the supply of rice of 117,000 metric tons. However, the NFA purchased 900,000 metric tons of rice, recording an over purchase of 783,000 metric tons of rice or 87%;

WHEREAS, in 2007, when a rice shortage was looming, the NFA allegedly bought rice more than what was needed. From an approximate 589,000 metric tons rice shortage, the government purchased 1,827,000 metric tons of rice, indicating an over purchase of 1.23 million metric tons of rice or 68%;

WHEREAS, the President mentioned further that similarly in 2008, the NFA again purchased rice more than what the country needed. Based on the purchases made by the government, there was an oversupply of rice which was stored in NFA warehouses, and huge quantities of rice were deliberately rotting and spoiling due to overimportation;

WHEREAS, in a country where four (4) million people are hungry and rice is the staple food, the deliberate wastage and spoilage of the same is an unimaginable crime against the people;

WHEREAS, there are gaps and issues in the purchasing and importation procedures of the NFA which necessitate investigation and reevaluation to avoid the omission of the wastage of rice in the future and commission of corrupt practices in the management of food supply and operations of the NFA; **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines to direct the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Food to conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, into the alleged excessive purchase and importation of rice made by the National Food Authority which resulted in wastage and spoilage of the same and the alleged corrupt practices in the management of food supply and the purchasing and importation procedures of the NFA.

ADOPTED,