

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

8 SEP 15

SENATE
P. S. R. No. **640**

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
CREATING AN AD HOC COMMITTEE WITH THE ASSISTANCE OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND HIGHWAYS (DPWH) THAT WILL BE
TASKED TO CONDUCT A FEASIBILITY STUDY DETERMINING THE COST
EFFICIENCY OF CONSTRUCTING A NEW SENATE BUILDING

WHEREAS, from 1926 to 1945, the Philippine Legislature, composed of the House of Representatives and the Senate of the Philippines, occupied the Old Congress Building in P. Burgos St., Manila; the Senate occupied the upper floors while the House occupied the lower portion;

WHEREAS, the war-damaged legislative building was reconstructed in 1950 and the fourth floor was used by the Senate for their plenary sessions;

WHEREAS, in 1987, the Senate obtained the use of the Commission on Audit-National Capital Region Office Building (COA-NCR Building) located at the COA-NRC Compound, Batasan Hills, Quezon City and started construction of the building intended for the Secretariat;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Senate has incurred expenses in the amount of Php41,163,523.82 for improvement of the land, building and other structures; but the Senate discontinued construction and turned over the COA-NCR Building for use by the Senate Electoral Tribunal (SET) and the House of Representatives Electoral Tribunal (HRET);

WHEREAS, last May 1997, the Senate transferred to the Government Services Insurance System (GSIS) Complex in Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City;

WHEREAS, since then, the Senate has been renting the building from the GSIS, paying Php 7,787,774.78 for the office building and Php 499,125.00 for the parking lot; the Senate's total monthly rental amounts to Php8,286,899.78;

WHEREAS, due to the limited space allotted for every senator, other senators also maintain satellite offices to accommodate all their staff including their files;

WHEREAS, the monthly rental for these satellite offices amount to Php474,285.29 in addition to the costly payment for the GSIS building;

WHEREAS, considering all these expenses, it would be reasonable to explore the feasibility of constructing a new Senate building;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to create an ad hoc committee with the assistance of the Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) that will be tasked to conduct a feasibility study determining the cost efficiency of constructing a new Senate building;

WHEREFORE, be it further resolved that the ad hoc committee would examine the following matters:

1. Reasons why the old plan to house the Senate near the Batasan building was discontinued after spending Php41.2 million;

2. Estimated cost of construction divided by the expected life of the building versus annual rentals being paid for the GSIS building, parking lot and senators' satellite offices.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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