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FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session

8 DEC 16 A&: 19

SENATE

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P. S. Res. No. 819

INTRODUCED BY THE HONORABLE BENIGNO S. AQUINO III

A RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE NEED FOR CONGRESS TO SUBMIT TO THE ELECTORATE, THROUGH THE MAY 2010 NATIONAL ELECTIONS, THE QUESTION OF CALLING A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION, OR, TO LEGISLATE THE HOLDING OF A CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION AND THE ELECTION OF DELEGATES SIMULTANEOUS WITH THE MAY 2010 NATIONAL ELECTIONS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

WHEREAS, Section 1, Article XVII of the 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates that any amendments to, or revision of, this Constitution may be proposed by a constitutional convention;

WHEREAS, Section 3, Article XVII of the 1987 Philippine Constitution further mandates that the Congress may, by a vote of two thirds of all its Members, call a constitutional convention, or by a majority vote of all its members, submit to the electorate the question of calling such a convention;

WHEREAS, Section 1, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution in no uncertain terms declares that sovereignty resides in the people and all government authority emanates from them;

WHEREAS, in accordance with the sovereign right of the people, all amendments to or revisions of the Philippine Constitution must be done in a deliberative and consultative process, without haste, under an environment and framework of transparency through the election of independent and non-partisan delegates of a constitutional convention during the May 2010 elections;

WHEREAS, Section 1, Article VI of the 1987 Philippine Constitution further provides that legislative power is vested in the Congress of the Philippines, which shall consist of a Senate and a House of Representatives;

WHEREAS, the Senate and House of Representatives, as two separate chambers of the Congress of the Philippines, may therefore, voting separately, submit to the electorate the question of calling a constitutional convention or call for such convention through legislation;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Senate direct the appropriate Senate Committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the need for Congress to submit to the electorate, through the May 2010 National Elections, the question of calling a constitutional convention, or, to legislate for the holding of a constitutional convention and the election of delegates simultaneous with the May 2010 National Elections and for other purposes.

Adopted,

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S. AQUINO III BENIGN Senator