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SENATE  
P. S. Res. No. 649

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Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

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**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,  
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED ESCALATION OF ORGANIZED  
CRIME SYNDICATES ENGAGED IN SEXTORTION IN THE COUNTRY**

**WHEREAS**, Section 11, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the State values the dignity of every human person and guarantees full respect for human rights;

**WHEREAS**, according to the Philippine National Police (PNP), three (3) sextortion dens in different parts of the country, particularly in Bicol, Laguna, Bulacan and Taguig City have been raided by the PNP Anti-Cybercrime Group in cooperation with Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Commission, Department of Justice, Interpol, US Homeland Security Investigation, Scotland Police, Australian Federal Police, Singapore Police, Hong Kong Police, Child Exploitation Online Protection, that led to the arrest of 58 individuals allegedly part of the sextortion organized crime circles and confiscation of 250 pieces of electronic evidence;

**WHEREAS**, sextortion is defined as a form of sexual exploitation that employs non-physical forms of coercion by threatening to release sexual images or information to extort sexual favors from the victim<sup>1</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, according to PNP Chief Allan Purisima, sextortion syndicates lure victims to engage in cybersex through their fake social networking sites accounts and cybersex websites and record videos of the victims engaging in cybersex; then blackmailing the victims of releasing the illicit videos on the internet or sending it to their families and friends with amounts ranging from P20,000 to P90,000 (USD \$500 to \$2000);

**WHEREAS**, older individuals are the common victims of sextortion but there are also accounts of younger individuals like the 17-year old Scottish boy who, according to Detective Chief Inspector Gary Cunningham of Scotland Police, committed suicide after being victimized by members of a sextortion ring in the country;

**WHEREAS**, according to reports, sextortion groups in Bicol make their operations look like legitimate call center companies;

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<sup>1</sup> Collins Dictionary Website, Sextortion, <http://www.collinsdictionary.com/submission/8290/Sextortion>.

**WHEREAS**, the growing number of sextortion syndicates in the country puts Filipinos, especially women and children, at risk of becoming victims of sextortion;

**WHEREAS**, it is the duty of the Senate, by policy or law, to stop the proliferation of sextortion in the country;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE**, as it is hereby resolved to direct the proper Senate Committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the escalation of organized crime syndicates engaged in sextortion in the country.



**MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY**  
Senator