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SENATE
P.S. Res No. 1217

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR CHRISTOPHER LAWRENCE "BONG" T. GO

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND DANGEROUS DRUGS, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CAMPAIGN AGAINST ILLEGAL DRUGS BY THE DUTERTE ADMINISTRATION

1 WHEREAS, Article II, Section 5 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution
2 dictates that, "The maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life,
3 liberty, and property, and promotion of the general welfare are essential for
4 the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy";

5
6 WHEREAS, the illegal drug trade has far-reaching negative
7 consequences on society and is closely associated with criminality because of
8 its highly illicit nature and its detrimental impacts on individuals, families and
9 communities. The drug menace ignites a culture of violence and corruption,
10 perpetuating a relentless cycle that is hard to dismantle, ultimately eroding the
11 social fabric of the society and undermining public safety;

12
13 WHEREAS, in light of the prevalence of the illegal drug problem and its
14 detrimental impacts in the country, former President Rodrigo Roa Duterte
15 ("PRRD") was propelled to the presidency because of his vigorous and hardline
16 stance against illegal drugs. This campaign against illegal drugs became the
17 bedrock of his administration, which delivered a strong message that has
18 resonated deeply with many Filipinos, fueled by their escalating frustration over
19 the worsening drug crisis;

20
21 WHEREAS, during Duterte's incumbency and based on real numbers, a
22 total of 24,379 out of the 42,045 barangays have been declared drug-free,
23 showing a significant achievement in the government's anti-drug campaign.
24 Additionally, the previous administration have seized a total of PHP76.01 billion
25 worth of narcotics across the country since the start of PRRD's administration's
26 crackdown on illegal drugs in mid-2016. Furthermore, the former administration
27 has also made strides in arresting high-profile drug personalities resulting to a

total of 14,648 individuals, and the dismantling of drug syndicates, which solidified their commitment to eradicating the drug problem in the country¹;

WHEREAS, the war against illegal drugs was not only central to former PRRD's governance but also widely supported across various sectors, with both Houses of Congress lauding the campaign during his State of Nation Addresses ("SONA"), which is well documented and verifiable. This significant support was clearly shown by the majority of Filipinos rallying behind this campaign, culminating in the former PRRD's impressive satisfaction rating of 88%, as highlighted by the June 2022 survey conducted by the Social Weather Stations (SWS)²;

WHEREAS, the past administration have shown equal concern for the rehabilitation and reintegration of drug dependents by directing the Executive Branch of the government to support the establishment of Drug Abuse Treatment and Rehabilitation Centers, such as the drug rehabilitation centers in Bukidnon, Nueva Ecija and Las Piñas;

WHEREAS, results of an SWS survey in 2019 showed that 79% of Filipinos were satisfied with then-President Duterte's war on drugs, with a net satisfaction rating of +64, classified as "very good". The most common reason respondents remained satisfied by the drug war is that drug suspects have lessened, drug suspects have been arrested, crime has lessened and it protected the youth from illegal drugs³;

WHEREAS, amidst the overwhelming public support, allegations of irregularity and various testimonies have recently surfaced alleging extrajudicial killings in the conduct of the campaign against illegal drugs;

WHEREAS, in the recent testimony of former PCSO General Manager PLTCol. Royina Garma (Ret.), it was disclosed that she received instructions to assist in the implementation of the 'Davao Model' in a nationwide scale campaign against illegal drugs, a system which involves payment and rewards and categorized into three distinct levels⁴;

WHEREAS, the alleged drug lord Kerwin Espinosa testified that he was coerced to implicate specific individuals in the illegal drug trade, under the threat of adverse consequence for himself and his family⁵;

¹ <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1171001>

² <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1184485>

³ <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1089379>

⁴ <https://www.rappler.com/philippines/garma-confirms-rodrigo-duterte-offered-reward-drug-war-killings/>

⁵ <https://www.rappler.com/philippines/kerwin-espinosa-says-dela-rosa-forced-testify-vs-de-lima/>

1 WHEREAS, several accusations which sparked concerns and raised
2 serious allegations about potential human rights violations and abuse of power
3 call for an investigation to ferret out the truth;
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5 WHEREAS, it is imperative that we uncover the truth and discern efforts
6 that are meant to utterly discredit the campaign against illegal drugs: Now,
7 therefore, be it
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9 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it hereby resolved, To direct the Senate
10 Committee on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs to conduct an inquiry in aid
11 of legislation on the campaign against illegal drugs by the Duterte
12 administration.

Adopted,


SENATOR CHRISTOPHER LAWRENCE "BONG" T. GO