



NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)

24 JUL -4 P3:00

SENATE
P.S. RES. No. 1063

RECEIVED BY: JC

Introduced by Senator Robinhood Padilla

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION AND
MASS MEDIA TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE
CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW SENATE BUILDING

1 Whereas, Section 1, Article XI of the 1987 Constitution states that: "Public office
2 is a public trust. Public officers and employees must at all times be accountable to the
3 people, serve them with utmost responsibility, integrity, loyalty, and efficiency, act
4 with patriotism and justice, and lead modest lives";

5
6 Whereas, being part of one of the main branches of the government, it is
7 incumbent upon the Senate to set the example of transparency and accountability not
8 only to the entire bureaucracy but more importantly, to the Filipino people;

9
10 Whereas, by virtue of Senate Resolution No. 293 or 'Resolution Creating an Ad
11 Hoc Committee Tasked to Conduct a Feasibility Study on the Construction of a New
12 Senate Building and the Relocation of New Senate Building' and Adopted Resolution
13 No. 110 or 'Resolution Confirming the Winner of the Global Conceptual Design
14 Competition for the New Building of the Senate of the Philippines, the Senators of the
15 17th Congress approved the construction and relocation of the Senate building to Fort
16 Bonifacio, Taguig;

17
18 Whereas, the Multi-Year Contractual Authority for Fiscal Years 2018, 2019,
19 2020, 2021, and 2022 was transferred by the Senate of the Philippines to the
20 Department of Public Works and Highways (DPWH) in the capacity of the latter as the
21 procuring entity, with a total amount of Eight Billion Nine Hundred Million Pesos
22 (P8,900,000,000.00);

23

1 Whereas, on 22 January 2019, the bidding for the project was conducted,
2 wherein the Notice of Award was later awarded in favor of Hilmarc's Construction
3 Corporation on 12 February 2019;

4
5 Whereas, on 10 June 2024, Senate President Francis Escudero announced that
6 he had ordered the new Chairman of the Senate Committee on Accounts, Senator
7 Alan Peter Cayetano, to review the cost of the New Senate Building (NSB), as it has
8 reportedly increased to P23 billion;

9
10 Whereas, subsequently, Senator Alan Peter Cayetano issued a statement that
11 he would ensure transparency in the review of the budget of the NSB "to ensure high
12 quality at a reduced cost";

13 **Whereas**, in the public hearing conducted by the Committee on Accounts dated
14 03 July 2024, the Committee reported that the current total cost of the project is
15 P23.38 billion, of which P8.9 billion is for the core and shell; P2.5 billion is for the fit-
16 out; P1.6 billion for land acquisition; and P10.33 billion for works to complete;

17 Whereas, there is a need to let the public know of the partner contractors if
18 any, and subcontractors of Hilmarc's Construction Corporation;

19 Whereas, informing the public of the processes undertaken in the construction
20 of the NSB including the increased costs, is necessary to ensure that the public does
21 not lose its trust in the Senate as an institution: *Now, therefore, be it*

22
23 RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to direct the Senate Committee on
24 Public Information and Mass Media to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the
25 construction of the New Senate Building.

Adopted,



ROBINHOOD C. PADILLA
Senator