

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

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SENATE

RECEIVED BY

P.S.R. No. 786



Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED NEED TO UNIFY JAIL SYSTEMS
IN THE PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 10 states, "The State shall promote social justice in all phases of national development";

WHEREAS, the *Philippine Star* in its 4 November 2008 issue reported that the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) allegedly wants Congress to pass a law that will unify the country's fragmented jail administration in its bid to upgrade standards in jails run by provincial governments and reduce operational costs;

WHEREAS, BJMP Director Rosendo Dial allegedly said that the bureau has been pushing Congress since the early 90's to pass a law that would unify and simplify jail administration under the BJMP through the creation of a National Correction Service;

WHEREAS, Dial reportedly said that defragmenting jail administration in our country will simplify operating and accounting systems, and will enhance jail standards;

WHEREAS, the report said that national prisons house more serious offenders, and those serving short-term sentences and awaiting trial are held in BJMP-controlled facilities;

WHEREAS, it is imperative that legislators study the feasibility of uniting jail administrations in the Philippines, especially if centralizing jail administration to one body will result to an increase in effectiveness of management and enhancement of jail standards;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry in aid of the legislation, on the reported need to unify jail systems in the Philippines.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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