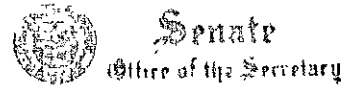



FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



'11 JUN 21 P 6:34

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

P. S. Res. No. 517

Introduced by Senator JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED RAMPANT IMPORTATION OF SUGAR PREMIXES TO EVADE THE PAYMENT OF TARIFFS ON SUGAR

WHEREAS, in recent months, there have been noticeable huge importations of sugar premixes into the country, which according to the National Federation of Sugar Planters, Inc. has reached one million 50-kilo bags in the year 2010;

WHEREAS, this practice of importing sugar premix is purportedly to evade the payment of tariff on sugar and is considered as technical smuggling, since under the existing Tariff Code, premix products containing less than 65 percent of sugar is tariff-free while importation of sugar premix which exceeds the allowable percentage carries a tariff of 38 percent;

WHEREAS, tests conducted by the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA) showed that some of these sugar premix importations contained 99.55% sugar;

WHEREAS, based on the estimate of the Confederation of Sugar Producers' Association, Inc. (CONFED), that from January 2010 to March 2011, a beverage company imported one million bags of sugar "premix" and were all declared as "sugar containing added flavouring or coloring" and deprived the national government of more than P750 million in revenues;

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2011, the Commissioner of the Bureau of Customs, after a meeting with SRA Administrator Ma. Regina Bautista Martin and other stakeholders in the sugar industry, issued Customs Memorandum Order No. 12 – 2011 which requires the submission of laboratory analysis conducted by the Sugar Regulatory Administration of all food preparations declared as Premixed Sugar Concentrates;

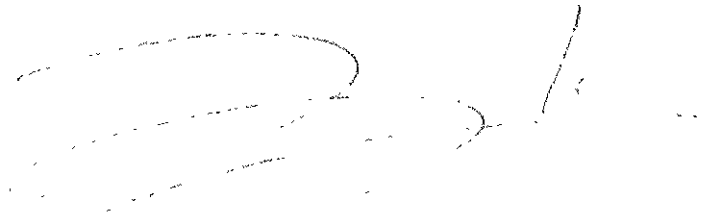
WHEREAS, despite the issuance of a Customs Memorandum Order No. 12 – 2011, importations of these sugar premixes with more than the allowable sugar content continue and remain unabated;

WHEREAS, if these sugar premix importations containing more than the allowable sugar content considered tariff-free remain unabated, these pose a serious

threat leading to the collapse of the sugar industry in the country and will seriously affect the livelihood and employment of millions of workers in the sugar industry and their families;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate to direct the proper Senate Committees to conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, on the reported rampant importation of sugar premixes to evade the payment of tariffs on sugar.

Adopted,



JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI