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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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SENATE

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P. S. Res. No. 661

Introduced by Senator Loren Legarda

RESOLUTION

URGING THE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED OVER-IMPORTATION OF MEAT PRODUCTS THAT MAY BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE LOCAL PORK, POULTRY AND FEEDS INDUSTRIES

Whereas, the Constitution provides in Article 12:

Sec. 12. The State shall promote the preferential use of Filipino labor, domestic materials and locally produced goods, and adopt measures that help make them competitive.

Sec. 13. The State shall pursue a trade policy that serves the general welfare and utilizes all forms and arrangement of exchange on the basis of equality and reciprocity;

Whereas, local producers expressed alarm over the alleged over-importation of meat products, which threatens to kill the P200-billion hog and poultry industry;

Whereas, pork importation increased dramatically in the previous years, from 65 million kilograms in 2007 to 135 million kilograms from January to November 2011;

Whereas, poultry importation has shown a dramatic increase, from 18 million kilograms in 2007 to 103 million kilograms from January to November 2011;

Whereas, seventy percent (70%) of the hog industry is composed of backyard raisers, the remaining thirty percent (30%) is composed of commercial hog farms;

Whereas, the alarming increase in the volume of meat importation has pushed down prices and is posing a serious threat to the local pork, poultry and feeds industries;

Whereas, frozen imported meat is sold at P90 to P100 per kilo, while locally produced meat is sold at P160 to P170 per kilo;

Whereas, lower prices of frozen imported meat has forced the backyard raisers to decrease the prices of locally-produced meat, thereby resulting to huge losses to these local industries;

Whereas, it is necessary to assess the policy and level of importation of meat products to address the concerns of Filipino hog and poultry raisers;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to urge the Committee on Agriculture and Food to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the reported over-importation of meat products that may be detrimental to the local pork, poultry and feeds industries.

Adopted,



LOREN LEGARDA

Senator