

## SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session

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SENATE

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P. S. RES. NO. <u>242</u>

## Introduced by Senator JOEL VILLANUEVA

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, EMPLOYMENT AND HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF THE SENATE, TO INQUIRE AND REVIEW, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE EFFECT OF THE PROPOSED PYROTECHNICS AND FIRECRACKERS BAN

WHEREAS, Secretary Paulyn Ubial of the Department of Health revealed that the Department is currently drafting an executive order that would limit the use and possession of firecrackers and pyrotechnics in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, on November 24, 2016, the Department of Labor and Employment issued a Work Stoppage Order pursuant to Rule 1012.02 of the Occupational Safety and Health Standards (OSHS) in relation to Article 168 of the Labor Code, all establishments engaged in the manufacture and sale of pyrotechnics and firecrackers were ordered to stop work pending inspection by the DOLE and its attached agencies on these establishments' compliance with the applicable OSHS regulations:

WHEREAS, the Work Stoppage Order was brought about by two recent fire accidents in Bocaue and Sta. Maria, Bulacan, which caused the death of five (5) people and injured thirty (30) others;

WHEREAS, Presidential Communications Secretary Martin Andanar stated that a proposed Executive Order banning all firecrackers and pyrotechnics will be revised to avoid possible loss of jobs. President Duterte further stated that he would consult with his Cabinet, since he was aware of the substantial economic impact that such an Executive Order would have on the affected manufacturers and those they employ;

WHEREAS, according to the Philippine Manufacturers and Dealers Association, there are approximately only 68 registered manufacturers of pyrotechnics and firecrackers;

WHEREAS, the DOLE revealed that workers in Central Luzon, Central Visayas and Negros Island will be affected by the proposed firecracker and pyrotechnics ban;

WHEREAS, there is a need to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, to craft legislation aimed at addressing issues affecting the industry particularly the safety and health of the workers and the community, and the impact of the proposed nationwide fireworks and pyrotechnic ban on the would-be affected workers in the industry and the economy as a whole;

**RESOLVE BY THE SENATE**, to direct the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resource Development and other appropriate committees of the Senate, to inquire and review, in aid of legislation, the effect of the proposed pyrotechnic and firecrackers ban.

Adopted,

SENATOR JØEL VILLANUEV