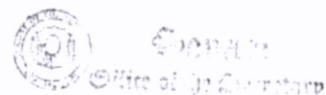


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



'18 MAY 10 / P 2 :18

SENATE
P.S. Res 728

RECEIVED
[Handwritten signature]

Introduced by Senator Poe

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY TO CONDUCT AN ASSESSMENT, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORT THAT THE PHILIPPINES IS AMONG THE MOST PRONE TO CYBERSECURITY ATTACKS, IN A BID TO DETERMINE REMEDIAL MEASURES TO PREVENT DATA BREACHES AND PROTECT VITAL INFORMATION

WHEREAS, the State recognizes the vital role of communication and information in nation-building (Article II, Section 24 of the 1987 Constitution);

WHEREAS, Article III, Section 7 of the Constitution also recognizes "the right of the people to information on matters of public concern," including "access to official records, and to documents, and papers pertaining to official acts, transactions, or decisions, as well as to government research data" which can be used as "basis for policy development...";

WHEREAS, through the years, technology has driven change in information and communication, with people's access becoming more efficient and innovative;

WHEREAS, technological advancements, however, are fraught with various threats in cyberspace, as these have been dogged by criminals who seek to hack important personal information, including banking and other industries;

WHEREAS, most organizations in the Philippines are still among the most vulnerable to cybersecurity attacks¹, with several data breaches in recent history such as the \$81 million Bangladesh Bank heist, hacking of the database of the Commission on

¹ Dumlao-Abadilla, D. 2018, May 3. "PH among most prone to cybersecurity attacks." Inquirer.net news site. Retrieved from <http://business.inquirer.net/250163/ph-among-prone-cybersecurity-attacks>

Elections that exposed "54 million sensitive data and 1.3 million passport numbers"² in what was regarded one of the worst government data breaches,

WHEREAS, "cyber risks have become more complex and diversified and Internet users with insufficient cybersecurity awareness become victims or end up becoming offenders unknowingly..."³ with the country's state of cybersecurity still at its infancy stage;

WHEREAS, Republic Act (RA) No. 10175 or the Cybercrime Prevention Act was enacted in 2012 in order to address cybersecurity issues and threats, while the Philippines established the Department of Information and Communications Technology in 2015 under RA No. 10844;

WHEREAS, any piece of vulnerable information, especially on the Internet, such as bank details and social media accounts, can be stolen, exposed and sold by cybercriminals to an underground market;

WHEREAS, cybersecurity threats have prompted the Philippines to put up the National Cybersecurity Plan 2022 which envisions to protect the government, businesses and citizens against cybersecurity attacks;

WHEREAS, there is a need to invest heavily on cybersecurity in order to protect the public against cyber attacks and put a stop to illegal practices of stealing sensitive personal and government information;

BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, BY THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES, to direct the Senate Committee on Science and Technology to conduct an assessment, in aid of legislation, on the report that the Philippines is among the most prone to cybersecurity attacks, in a bid to determine remedial measures to prevent data breaches and protect vital information.

Adopted,


GRACE POE


² Jiao, C. 2018, January 23. "Gov't to invest P2B for national cybersecurity." CNN Philippines news site. Retrieved from <http://cnnphilippines.com/business/2017/05/04/Govt-to-invest-P2B-for-national-cybersecurity.html>

³ Page 3, National Cybersecurity Plan 2022. Published by the Philippines' Department of Information and Communications technology