SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE) REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)

Third Regular Session

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SENATE

P. S. RES. NO.810

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Introduced by Senator JOEL VILLANUEVA

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, EMPLOYMENT AND HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT AND OTHER APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ISSUES ARISING FROM THE REGULARIZATION OF EMPLOYEES WITH A VIEW TO ADDRESS GAPS THEREIN THROUGH LEGISLATION OR POLICY REVIEW

WHEREAS, the issue on the regularization of workers has continued despite the present administration's efforts and campaign to end the abuses in labor contracting;

WHEREAS, in the past few months, we have been witness to dispersals in Nutri-Asia, protests of workers in PLDT, Jollibee Foods Corporation, Uni-Pak sardines, Monde Nissin, Middleby Phils. Corp., among others, in what appear to be persistent enforcement and compliance issues, despite the issuance of findings or orders of regularization by the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE);

WHEREAS, enforcement and compliance issues are the substantial hurdles on the accuracy of the reported more than 300,000 regularized workers as of July this year, which was disputed by different labor groups and labelled as a measly 25% of the claimed 1.2 million contractual workers nationwide:

WHEREAS, the PLDT case, whose workers comprise part of the purported 300,000 regularized workers, involved the unimplemented final and executory order of the DOLE to regularize the 7,309 contractor's workers and payment of 2,074 workers the total amount of Php51,801,729;

WHEREAS, the case of Nutri-Asia, whose workers also allegedly comprise part of the 300,000 regularized workers, also stemmed from a finding of labor-only contracting of manpower cooperatives by DOLE inspectors on March 10, 2018, which then resulted to the conduct of a strike and violent dispersals, and the subsequent arrest of 23 workers as well as injuries to a number of workers;

WHEREAS, PLDT and Nutri-Asia are the more prominent cases on enforcement and compliance issues, and there are more cases of similar nature all over the country, thus, the need to inquire and review, in aid of legislation, the measures being adopted by the DOLE to peacefully resolve issues related to contract workers and their regularization;

RESOLVE BY THE SENATE, that the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development and other appropriate Senate Committees, conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the status of regularization of workers with a view to addressing the gaps in the law on enforcement and compliance that facilitates discord and violence similar to situations of the PLDT and Nutri-Asia workers.

Adopted,

SENATOR JOEL VILLANUEVA