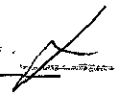


OFFICE OF THE CLERK  
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SENATE  
P.S.R. No. 154

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Franklin M. Drilon

**RESOLUTION**

**CREATING AN OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC EXPENDITURES**

1 WHEREAS, the 1987 Constitution, Article XI, Section 1 states that: "Public  
2 Office is a public trust. Public officers and employees must, at all times, be  
3 accountable to the people, serve them with utmost responsibility, integrity, loyalty,  
4 and efficiency; act with patriotism and justice, and lead modest lives"

5 WHEREAS, public offices are entrusted with public funds to be used in  
6 providing basic services for the people, therefore, public expenditures should be  
7 subject to scrutiny to ensure they are properly utilized;

8 WHEREAS, various allegations of misuse of funds has resulted in a growing  
9 negative perception of our people of public offices;

10 WHEREAS, there is a need to constitute the Oversight Committee on Public  
11 Expenditures to exercise its functions over the use and disbursement of public funds  
12 granted to government agencies;

13 WHEREAS, the Rules of the Senate, Rule 10, Section 14 provides  
14 "Whenever necessary, special committees shall be organized, the membership and  
15 jurisdiction of which shall be determined by the Senate President;

16 Now, therefore, be it Resolved by the Senate, that the Oversight Committee  
17 on Public Expenditures is hereby constituted. The Chairman shall be the Chairman

1 of the Finance Committee and this committee shall be composed of the Chair and 6  
2 members to be appointed by the Senate President provided that members of the  
3 minority shall be represented by at least one (1).

4 Resolved further, that the oversight committee shall, in aid of legislation,  
5 perform the following functions; among others:

6 1. Require the submission of expenditure reports from government  
7 agencies to ensure transparency;

8 2. Review and evaluate expenditure reports vis-à-vis budget

9 3. Approve the budget for the program of the oversight committee and  
10 all disbursements from the budget, including compensation of all personnel:

11 4. Assess inherent weaknesses in existing laws and initiate necessary  
12 remedial legislation or executive measures; and

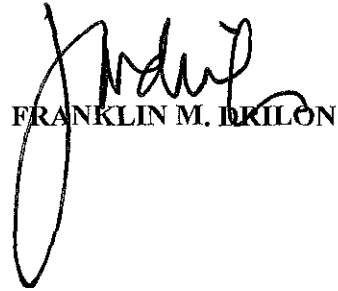
13 5. Other duties which may be necessary to attain its objectives.

14 Resolved, further, That the oversight committee is hereby empowered to  
15 require government agencies and Government Owned and Controlled Corporations  
16 (GOCCs) to submit expenditure reports and all pertinent data that will be necessary  
17 in ensuring transparency and accountability;

18 Resolved further, That the oversight committee shall adopt its internal rules  
19 of procedure; conduct hearings and receive testimonies and reports; write or summon  
20 by subpoena ad testificandum any public official, private citizen or any other person  
21 to testify before it, or require any person by subpoena duces tecum to produce before  
22 it such records, reports, documents or other materials as it may require; and  
23 generally, exercise all the powers necessary to attain the purpose for which it is  
24 created. The oversight committee shall be assisted by a Secretariat to be composed of  
25 personnel, and may retain consultants. The Secretariat shall be headed by an  
26 executive director, who has sufficient background and competence on the policies

1 and issues related to government budget and expenditures. To carry out its powers  
2 and functions, the initial sum needed shall be charged against the current  
3 appropriations of the Senate. Thereafter, such amount necessary for its continued  
4 operation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

5 Adopted,



FRANKLIN M. BRILON