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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

P.S. Resolution No. 240

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INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

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**RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE COMMITTEE ON CLIMATE CHANGE TO LOOK INTO THE ALLEGED REPORTS OF ILLEGAL LOGGING AND TRANSPORT OF LOGS FROM THE SIERRA MADRE MOUNTAINS WITH THE END IN VIEW OF PREVENTING THE SAME AND PRESERVING THE REMAINING FOREST COVER OF THE SAID MOUNTAIN RANGE.**

**WHEREAS**, Article II Section 16 of the 1987 Constitution declares it the policy of the State to *“protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature”*;

**WHEREAS**, the Sierra Madre is the longest mountain range in the Philippines which serves as an eastern wall for Luzon protecting the island from an average of 26 storms every year;

**WHEREAS**, there are reports that the remaining forest cover of the Sierra Madre mountain range are continuously being denuded through illegal logging activities;

**WHEREAS**, the illegally felled logs otherwise known as “hot logs” are being transported through the Umiray River, a waterway between Quezon and Aurora provinces;

**WHEREAS**, this continued degradation of the remaining forest of the Sierra Madre will only escalate the effects of climate change on its surrounding areas and will result to more natural disasters of “Ondoy” proportions if not prevented;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources has cited the lack of livelihood opportunities of the families living in the mountain range and the inability of the forest rangers to adequately oversee 4,000 hectares of forest lands as causes of deforestation;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLED**, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines to direct the Senate Committee on the Environment and the Committee Climate Change to look into the alleged reports of illegal logging and transport of logs from the Sierra Madre mountains with the end in view of preventing the same and preserving the remaining forest cover of the said mountain range.

Adopted,

  
MANNY VILLAR