FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

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SENATE

RECEIVED BY:

P.S. Resolution No. 243

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

RESOLUTION URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND COMMERCE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION AND EFFECTIVENESS OF REPUBLIC ACT 8754 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE ELECTRONIC COMMERCE ACT OF 2000 VIS-À-VIS THE REPORTED INCREASE OF SCHEMES AND FRAUDULENT ELECTRONIC TRANSACTIONS

WHEREAS, Section 2 of R.A. 8754 otherwise known as the Electronic Commerce Act of 2000 states:

"The State recognizes the vital role of information and communications technology (ICT) in nation-building;

$X \quad X \quad X$

(it is obligated) to ensure network security, connectivity and neutrality of technology for the national benefit; and the need to marshal, organize and deploy national information infrastructures, comprising in both telecommunications network and strategic information services, including their interconnection to the global information networks, with the necessary and appropriate legal, financial, diplomatic and technical framework, systems and facilities";

WHEREAS, it is the object of the Electronic Commerce Act to facilitate domestic and international dealings, transactions, arrangements, agreements, contracts and exchanges and storage of information through the utilization of electronic, optical and similar medium, mode, instrumentality and technology to recognize the authenticity and reliability of electronic documents related to such activities and to promote the universal use of electronic transaction in the government and general public;

WHEREAS, there are reports of organized swindling groups using electronic transactions through the internet to defraud consumers, some of the fraudulent transactions used websites showcasing their projects and advertising the names of reputable firms in order to entice their buyers;

WHEREAS, the Electronic Commerce Act must define the meaning and scope of "website hosting provider", provide for means for their regulation, set up safeguards to protect the public from swindlers making use of websites to commit fraud and establish a measure of control over the creation and establishment of the same within the ambit of the Electronic Commerce Act;

WHEREAS, in view of the foregoing there arises a need to study the effectiveness of the implementation of R.A. 8754 otherwise known as the Electronic Commerce Act of 2000, and adopt means to prevent fraud in online transactions for the purpose of protecting the consumers and preserving the integrity of electronic commerce;

NOW, WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate to urge the Senate Committee on Trade and Commerce to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the implementation and effectiveness of Republic Act 8754 otherwise known as the Electronic Commerce Act of 2000 vis-à-vis the reported increase of schemes and fraudulent electronic transactions.

Adopted,

MANNY VILLAR