

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

"11 FEB -3 P3:39

S E N A T E P. S. RES. No. **365** RECEIVED BY: 2

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

RESOLUTION

URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND COMMERCE AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE/S TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS CODE VIS-À-VIS THE ALLEGED HELPLESSNESS OF CONCERNED GOVERNMENT AGENCIES TO CURB SOFTWARE PIRACY

Whereas, the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides, "[t]he State shall protect and secure the exclusive rights of scientists, inventors, artists and other gifted citizens to their intellectual property and creations, particularly when beneficial to the people, for such period as may be provided by law." (Article XIV, Section 13);

Whereas, the Intellectual Property Rights Code of the Philippines was enacted primarily to protect the country's so-called "intellectual, cultural, artistic, scientific and all gifted" creations and to be the repository of all those and its accompanying documentation;

Whereas, since its enactment, the Intellectual Property Office (IPO) together with various government agencies have been working together to implement the law which includes in the extreme the conduct of strategic raids in areas known to be hubs of businesses engaged in the sale of unlicensed software kits, including computers equipped with unlicensed software;

Whereas, one of the goals of the concerned government agencies and its partner institutions is to ensure the complete eradication of software piracy in the country and in fact, such effort is being supported by the Optical Media Board (OMB) and the Philippine National Police;

Whereas, software piracy remains as a menace that slowly kills the information technology (IT) industry which relatively impairs the economy;

Whereas, the fight against software piracy must be seriously implemented;

Whereas, the government should be in the forefront of implementing the antipiracy campaign in the aim of aiding the country's economic recovery and resuscitate millions that the economy is losing due to the rampant stealing of intellectual property;

Whereas, concerned government agencies and support organizations shall strictly implement statutes and laws including implementing rules and regulations and policy guidelines that will encumber the worsening piracy problem in the country, as well as improving the prosecution system to eradicate the ill repercussions of software piracy; NOW THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to urge the Senate Committee on Trade and Commerce and other appropriate Senate Committee/s to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation on the implementation of the Intellectual Property Rights Code vis-à-vis the alleged helplessness of concerned government agencies to curb software piracy.

Adopted,