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SENATE P. S. R. No. **374**

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED UNPRECEDENTED JAILBREAK IN ONE OF THE NATIONAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION'S DETENTION CENTERS IN MANILA

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 27 states: "The State shall maintain honesty and integrity in the public service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption";

WHEREAS, various news articles last 9 February 2011 reported that two inmates escaped from the National Bureau of Investigation's (NBI) detention facility in Manila, the first time in the bureau's history;

WHEREAS, manhunt operations have already been launched to locate the fugitives, Albert Mata and Leovince Acapulco, the former detained for kidnapping with homicide and payroll robbery, and the latter on charges of kidnapping for ransom;

WHEREAS, two NBI guards are currently under investigation following the escape of the inmates if they were complicit with the escapees;

WHEREAS, NBI officers told the media that the detainees managed to escape by using blades to cut off ten metal bars in their detention cells, and are puzzled how the guards weren't able to notice anything suspicious;

WHEREAS, Congress should look into this unprecedented event as either an isolated incident or system-wide manifestation of graft and corruption in the NBI, of its officers, agents or employees cajoling with criminals;

WHEREAS, this being the first time to happen to the bureau, legislation should also inquire how the NBI maintains its detention centers as a separate agency from the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology;

WHEREAS, this resolution should also be considered vis-à-vis incidents of jailbreaks in a number of detention centers in the country in the past years;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the proper Senate committee, to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation, on the reported unprecedented jailbreak in one of the National Bureau of Investigation's detention centers in Manila.

Adopted,

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIFICE

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