

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )



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SENATE  
P.S.R. No. 507

RECORDED BY: *[Signature]*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION  
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID  
OF LEGISLATION, ON THE NEED TO CREATE STRICTER MEASURES AND  
PENALTIES TO CURB THE SMUGGLING OF VEHICLES AND ILLEGAL FIREARMS  
INTO THE PHILIPPINES

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 media outfits have reported that several luxury vehicles and motorcycles allegedly smuggled from the United States were found in Allan Lynnard Bigcas' backyard in Cagayan de Oro;

WHEREAS, it was reported that at least 11 vehicles, including the Martin and Martin Bros custom chopper of Hollywood writer Skip Woods which was reported missing in the United States (US) last year, were recovered from the yard of Bigcas;

WHEREAS, Bigcas's alleged smuggling operation was discovered by the National Bureau of Investigation after he posted in his Facebook account the photograph of Woods' motorcycle, which was smuggled into the country;

WHEREAS, Bigcas denied he was involved in smuggling, but reportedly said that he bought the motorcycle through legal means and had it shipped to the Philippines piece by piece via balikbayan boxes;

WHEREAS, it was alleged that aside from luxurious cars and motorcycles, Bigcas also smuggled illegal arms and sold them to local government officials;

WHEREAS, it was reported that Bigcas kept a blackbook that listed all his transactions and clients; included in his list were a certain "Noah Dimaporo," "Mayor Ali," "Mayor Dimaporo," "Boy Plaza," and a certain "Pepe"; two persons named "Jalosjos" were also included.;

WHEREAS, it is common knowledge that many local government officials keep private armies to protect their families and enforce their bidding;

WHEREAS, although the Bureau of Customs (BOC) is primarily charged with the duty of enforcing anti-smuggling laws in the country, it is necessary for the legislature to create stricter anti-smuggling measures that will carry heavier penalties than those already imposed;

WHEREAS, local government officials and other government officials in the BOC and related agencies should also be monitored to ascertain whether or not they are complicit with the smuggling of firearms in the Philippines;

WHEREAS, government officials responsible for monitoring smuggled items, such as those belonging to the BOC and postal services, should increase their surveillance of items that are usually smuggled into the country;

WHEREAS, the State should also focus on more innovative ways to curb the adroit measures employed by smugglers;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the need to create stricter measures and penalties to curb the smuggling of vehicles and illegal firearms into the Philippines.

Adopted,

*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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