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SENATE

NO.

BY:

[Signature]

P.S. Resolution No. 707

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE AND FOOD AND THE COMMITTEE ON TRADE AND COMMERCE TO CONDUCT A STUDY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE APPROPRIATENESS OF THE PLANNED EXPORT OF EXOTIC PHILIPPINE BIRDS WITH THE END IN VIEW OF ENSURING THE PROTECTION OF ENDANGERED BIRD SPECIES BY STRIKING A BALANCE BETWEEN TRADE AND CONSERVATION

Whereas, Section 16 of Article II of the 1987 Constitution states that:

“The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature.”;

Whereas, Republic Act No. 9147 otherwise known as “AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE CONSERVATION AND PROTECTION OF WILDLIFE RESOURCES AND THEIR HABITATS, APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES” provides to wit:

“Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy. It shall be the policy of the State to conserve the country's wildlife resources and their habitats for sustainability. In the pursuit of this policy, this Act shall have the following objectives:

(a) to conserve and protect wildlife species and their habitats to promote ecological balance and enhance biological diversity;

(b) to regulate the collection and trade of wildlife;

X X X”;

Whereas, according to Bureau of Animal Industry the Philippines is eyeing to export birds to the European Union;¹

¹ Philippines eyeing exotic bird exports to Europe, Business World;
<http://www.bworldonline.com/content.php?section=Economy&title=Philippines-eyeing-exotic-bird-exports-to-Europe&id=46223> February 6, 2012 1.00 PM

Whereas, the country is set to gain profits from the lucrative trade in exotic bird species most especially that some of the world's biggest aviculture and breeding centers are located in the country;²

Whereas, notwithstanding the economic gain, a closer scrutiny must be made in the implementation of this plan as it may have an impact on the local ecosystem;

Whereas, at present time, most birds endemic to the Philippines are considered endangered, with their habitats being threatened by the fast pace of development and industrialization;

Whereas, the demand and the value given to exotic birds in the black market trade is not only a grave threat to the birds but also to the public coffers as such illegal acts deprive the government of much needed funds to promote the public good;

Whereas, the legislature must act in order to strike a balance between the purported profits of the exporters from this trade and the general welfare which we are bound to protect and promote in the interest of succeeding generations;

NOW, WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines to direct the Senate Committee on Agriculture and Food the Committee on Trade and Commerce to conduct a study, in aid of legislation, on the appropriateness of the planned export of exotic Philippine birds with the end in view of ensuring the protection of endangered bird species by striking a balance between trade and conservation.

Adopted,


MANNY VILLAR

² Birds International Incorporated: http://www.jancczek.com/start_e.php?i=nachzuchten February 6, 2012 2.00 PM