


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

Secretary
Office of the Secretary

12 MAY 15 22:19

SENATE
P.S. RES. NO. 770

Re: -

By: 

Introduced by Senator Manny B. Villar

RESOLUTION
URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON TOURISM AND LOCAL
GOVERNMENT TO CONDUCT AN IMMEDIATE ASSESSMENT IN AID OF
LEGISLATION, ON THE STRATEGIES AND APPROACHES TO HELP THE
REVITALIZATION OF INTRAMUROS AND MAKING IT THE HUB OF
CULTURAL-HISTORICAL TOURISM IN THE COUNTRY

Whereas, it is the policy of the State to "give priority to education, science and technology, *arts, culture*, and sports to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development." (Article II, Section 17, 1987 Constitution)

Whereas, Sections 15 and 16 of Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution states that:

*Section 15. Arts and letters shall enjoy patronage of the State. **The State shall conserve, promote, and popularize the nation's historical and cultural heritage and resources, as well as artistic creations.***

Section 16. All the country's artistic and historic wealth constitutes the cultural treasure of the nation and shall be under the protection of the State which may regulate its disposition.

Whereas, in a news article published in The Philippine Star, Tourism Secretary Ramon Jimenez Jr. was quoted, "there is a need to develop Intramuros as a nighttime destination in view of the lack of tourist destinations in the Manila";

Whereas, Intramuros is the old capital of Manila which was built in 1571 during the Spanish era, and is therefore bustling with Philippine culture and history;

Whereas, of recent, the Global Heritage Fund listed Intramuros and Fort Santiago as among the ten (10) most endangered sites in Asia;

Whereas, Intramuros remains a majestic representation of the culture, lifestyle, and milestones of the Spanish period despite the many destructions and restorations it has undergone;

Whereas, although the Philippines boasts of an abundance of natural and historical wonders in various parts of the country that attract tourists foreign and local alike, tourist destinations in the capital region of the Philippines are wanting;

Whereas, the utilization of culture and history to attract tourists have long been used as a strategy by countries such as India (Agra Fort, Khujaro Temples, Taj Mahal), China (The Great Wall, Tiananmen Square, Forbidden City), Peru (Machu Picchu, Cuzco, Nazca Lines), Japan (Goryokaku Fort, Mitsuji Temple Jodo Garden, Imperial Palace) and others, to improve their economy, promote trade and commerce, and boost their local industries;

Whereas, other Asian countries such as Thailand, Vietnam and China attract tourists through the promotion of their night time destinations including night markets where locally manufactured products are sold;

Whereas, the revival and revitalization of Intramuros, will help promote it as a tourist destination, and consequently will boost both foreign and local cultural, historical and commercial tourism;

Whereas, tourism as an industry has helped the Philippines, as well as other countries that promote tourism, boost the economy, promote trade, and develop local industries;

Whereas, the influx of both local and foreign tourists will help nurture small local businesses such as restaurants, cafes, souvenir manufacturing companies, and others, as well as provide urban livelihood to the habitants of Manila;

Whereas, the establishments in Intramuros will also serve as a venue for local performing groups to showcase Filipino talent and culture;

Whereas, Intramuros as a cultural and historical tourist destination will serve as a training ground for young professionals and fresh graduates who want to become tourist guides;

Whereas, establishing a night market in Intramuros as a venue to sell locally manufactured products will help small local retailers and manufacturers;

NOW, WHEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines to recommend to the Senate Committees on Tourism and Local Government to conduct an immediate assessment in aid of legislation, on the strategies and approaches to help the revitalization of Intramuros and making it the hub of cultural-historical tourism in the country.

Adopted.


MANNY VILLAR