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SENATE
P.S. RES. NO. 838

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BY: Per

Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

RESOLUTION

URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AMATEUR SPORTS COMPETITIVENESS, AND OTHER APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO INVESTIGATE, INQUIRE AND LOOK INTO, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE CURRENT STATE OF SPORTS DEVELOPMENT IN THE PHILIPPINES AFTER THE LACKLUSTER PERFORMANCE OF THE PHILIPPINE DELEGATIONS IN THE RECENTLY CONCLUDED SUMMER OLYMPICS HELD AT LONDON, UNITED KINGDOM FROM JULY 27-AUGUST 12, 2012 AS WELL AS IN THE 2011 SOUTH EAST ASIAN (SEA) GAMES

WHEREAS, Article XIV, Section 19 (1) of the 1987 Philippine Constitution expressly states and mandates that: *"The State shall promote physical education and encourage sports programs, league competitions and amateur sports, including training for international competitions, to foster self-discipline, teamwork, and excellence for the development of a healthy and alert citizenry"*;

WHEREAS, the 30th edition of the Summer Olympics in London, United Kingdom, which is considered to be the premier sports tournament in the world, recently concluded where a total of two hundred four (204) countries and a total of ten thousand eight hundred twenty (10,820) athletes competed;

WHEREAS, the Philippines has been sending representatives ever since the country has joined the Olympics in 1924, and has since managed to win a dismal total of only nine (9) medals -- 7 bronze, 2 silvers and no gold;

WHEREAS, moreover, in the recently concluded 2012 edition of the Summer Olympics, the Philippines sent a total of eleven (11) athletes to compete in eight sports but have sadly failed to win any medals despite the genuine desire, perseverance and sincere efforts of Filipino athletes to bring pride, honor and glory for the country and our people;

WHEREAS, further, the Philippines has not bagged any medal in the Olympics since 1996 when Mansueto “*Onyok*” Velasco last won a medal for the country in Atlanta by winning the silver medal in the light-flyweight boxing division;

WHEREAS, furthermore, the Philippines, during the Southeast Asian Games in November 2011 at Jakarta, Indonesia, finished only in sixth place after garnering a total of thirty-six (36) gold medals, fifty-six (56) silver medals, and seventy-seven (77) bronze medals – a far cry from its dominating performance in 2005 where it triumphantly emerged as the overall champion in the said tournament;

WHEREAS, albeit there is no shortage of perseverance, dedication, moral courage, strength of character and competitive spirit displayed by our Filipino athletes, it is very evident that the country is lagging behind in terms of its performance in athletic competitions not only in the world level but also in the Southeast Asia as well;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Sports Commission (PSC) currently supports around 800 national athletes and coaches from 52 different national sports associations, and faces the challenge of maximizing its limited budget and allocating limited funds and resources to fulfill its statutory mandate, support sports development and implement its national sports development plans and programs;

WHEREAS, the law clearly provides for the sources of funds for the PSC to be utilized for development and promotion of Philippine sports but the same is not being followed, thus, rendering the issue of funding a perennial problem, especially when compared to our Southeast Asian neighbors which regularly allocate significant portions of their annual budgets for sports promotion and development;

WHEREAS, according to the PSC during its briefing for the Senate Committee on Games, Amusement & Sports last year, past administrations used funds earmarked for sports for government employees instead of for athletes, thus, leaving very little for local and international competitions and for grassroots and/or national sports development programs;

WHEREAS, as early as 2010, Chairman Ricardo R. Garcia of the PSC admitted during the Sports Summit that there are many troubling issues besetting the sports sector, such as lack of funds, lack of coordination between agencies and red tape;

WHEREAS, corollary to the aforementioned, the low priority given to Physical Education (PE) in the country and the failure to prioritize the development of a corps of capable coaches, trainers and/or officials with proper training and/or appropriate background and experience has not helped at all in recognizing and/or harnessing sports as a important and

significant tool for national development and the promotion of health and well-being of our countrymen;

WHEREAS, in light of all the foregoing, there is an apparent need for the Senate to investigate, look into and/or inquire, in aid of legislation, at the current state of Philippine sports, particularly in light of the lackluster performance of the Philippine delegations to the recently concluded 30th Summer Olympics and the 2011 Southeast Asian (SEA) Games, in order that corrective measures can be crafted and/or remedial actions can be undertaken to once and for all address the concerns, problems and/or issues perennially affecting the Philippine Sports Commission, the different national sports associations, national athletes and/or Philippine sports in general;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the Senate Committee on Amateur Sports Competitiveness and/or other appropriate Committee(s) of the Senate to investigate, look into and/or inquire, in aid of legislation, at the current state of sports development in the Philippines in the light of the lackluster performance of the Philippine Delegations to the recently concluded Summer Olympics held at London, United Kingdom from July 27- August 12, 2012 and the 2011 Southeast Asian (SEA) Games last year in order that corrective measures can be crafted and/or remedial actions can be undertaken, to once and for all address the concerns, problems and/or issues perennially affecting the Philippine Sports Commission, the different national sports associations, national athletes and/or Philippine sports in general.

Adopted,


ANTONIO "SONNY F. TRILLANES IV
Senator