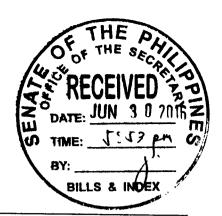
SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )
OF THE PHILIPPINES )
First Regular Session )

SENATE P. S. Res No. 3



Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

## RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES TO INQUIRE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE MANILA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT AUTHORITY (MIAA) MEMORANDUM CIRCULAR NO. 8, SERIES OF 2014, PROVIDING FOR THE INTEGRATION OF FIVE HUNDRED FIFTY PESO (P550)-INTERNATIONAL PASSENGER SERVICE CHARGE (IPSC) OR AIRPORT TERMINAL FEE INTO AIRLINE TICKETS

WHEREAS, under Section 18, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution, the State affirms labor as a primary social economic force. It shall protect the rights of workers and promote their welfare;

WHEREAS, under Section 35 of Republic Act No. 8042, as amended by Republic Act 10022, Overseas Filipino Workers (OFWs) are exempted from paying the travel tax and airport terminal fee;

WHEREAS, the MIAA issued Memorandum Circular No. 8, Series of 2014, on the implementing guidelines for the integration of IPSC or airport terminal fee into the airline tickets at the point of sale;

WHEREAS, MIAA Memorandum Circular No. 8, Series of 2014, requires all passengers, whether exempt or non-exempt, including OFWs, to pay the IPSC or airport terminal fee;

WHEREAS, according to MIAA, the purpose of the policy is to decongest and ease the traffic in airports. However, due to the implementation of the said memorandum circular, OFWs are forced to pay the terminal fee and line up for refunds;

WHEREAS, during the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress, the Senate conducted a public hearing in aid of legislation on Proposed Senate Resolution Nos. 986<sup>1</sup> and 1015<sup>2</sup> regarding MIAA Memorandum Circular No. 8, Series of 2014;

I filed by this representation

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> filed by Sen. Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III

## WHEREAS, through all the discussions, it was established that:

- 1. it is not impossible to adopt a computer system that will allow recognition of the exemption of OFWs or the online verification of documents showing exemption of the OFWs and other locally-recognized exempt passengers;
- 2. the integration of the IPSC or airport terminal fee into the payment of airline tickets is not urgent and that there would be no loss of profit on the part of the government;
- 3. the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) expressed its willingness to share its database of OFWs with the airlines to ease the creation of an automated system to exempt such OFWs and other locally-recognized exempt passengers;

WHEREAS, 20 Senators of the 16<sup>th</sup> Congress signed Senate Resolution No. 1179 strongly urging the MIAA Board of Directors to suspend the implementation of and recall of MIAA Memorandum Circular No. 8, Series of 2014;

WHEREAS, the implementation of the said memorandum circular has raised questions as to how much has been collected from OFWs and how much in non-refunded OFW payments does MIAA has in its possession;

WHEREAS, the continued implementation of MIAA Memorandum Circular No. 8, Series of 2014 has resulted in the imposition of unjust and undue burden on OFWs;

WHEREAS, it is the duty of the Senate, by policy or by law, to give full protection to labor, particularly to our OFWs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved to direct the proper Senate Committees to inquire, in aid of legislation, on the Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA) Memorandum Circular No. 8, Series of 2014, providing for the integration of five hundred fifty peso (P550)-International Passenger Service Charge (IPSC) or airport terminal fee into airline tickets.

Adopted,

MARÍA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY