

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



'16 AUG 25 P12:28

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: _____

P. S. R. No. 114

Introduced by Senator Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III

**RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON
FOREIGN RELATIONS AND LABOR, EMPLOYMENT AND
HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT TO CONDUCT AN
INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE TRAGIC
DEATH OF OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKER
IRMA AVILA EDLOY**

WHEREAS, *Article XIII, Section 3, 1st paragraph*, of the *Constitution* provides that "[T]he State shall afford full protection to labor, local and overseas, xxx" while *Section 14* thereof mandates the State to "protect working women by providing safe and healthful working conditions, xxx";

WHEREAS, the tragic death of Overseas Filipino Worker (OFW) Irma Avila Edloy reminds us time and again of the risk to life and limbs faced by our OFWs, especially female OFWs employed as domestic workers;

WHEREAS, Edloy, 35, arrived in Saudi Arabia on July 28, 2016 as a recruit of Rejoice Employment International Corp. for her principal employer, Al Sayyar Recruitment in Riyadh¹;

WHEREAS, barely a month after her deployment, Edloy was rushed to the King Salman Hospital in Riyadh after sustaining severe injuries believed to be caused by sexual assault.² Medical reports of Edloy revealed that she suffered from lacerations in her private parts,

¹ Retrieved from <http://www.philstar.com/headlines/2016/08/20/1615234/raped-ofw-saudi-dies> on August 21, 2016.

² *Id.*

along with multiple bruises on her face and body³;

WHEREAS, before Edloy succumbed to her injuries, she had implicated her employer in the sexual assault, pointing to said employer when a nurse asked her if she had been maltreated⁴;

WHEREAS, Edloy passed away on August 18, 2016 after she had suffered from several cardiac arrests and collapsed into a coma⁵;

WHEREAS, Edloy's death must not simply add to the statistics of OFWs whose lives were lost at the hands of abusive employers;

WHEREAS, an inquiry must be conducted to find out if the mandate of the Constitution to provide safe and healthful working conditions for working women is carried out through appropriate policies for our female OFWs, for it is arguably a necessary requisite to providing "*full protection to labor, local and overseas*";

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES, TO DIRECT THE COMMITTEES ON FOREIGN RELATIONS AND LABOR, EMPLOYMENT AND HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE TRAGIC DEATH OF OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKER IRMA AVILA EDLOY, TO FIND OUT WHETHER THE CONSTITUTION'S MANDATE TO PROVIDE SAFE AND HEALTHFUL WORKING CONDITIONS FOR WORKING WOMEN IS CARRIED OUT THROUGH APPROPRIATE POLICIES TO PROTECT OUR FEMALE OFWS.

Adopted,


AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III

³ Retrieved from <http://www.manilatimes.net/pinay-rape-victim-in-saudi-passes-away/280901/> on August 21, 2016.

⁴ Retrieved from <http://www.presstv.ir/Detail/2016/08/20/480853/Philippines-Saudi-Arabia-Avila-Edloy> on August 21, 2016.

⁵ Retrieved from Philstar, supra.