

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



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SENATE

P. S. Res. No. 429

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, TO DETERMINE AND DEVISE A PLAN AND STRATEGY TO REVITALIZE, RESTORE, AND ENHANCE THE HISTORICAL VALUE OF INTRAMUROS AND THE EFFECTIVENESS OF INTRAMUROS ADMINISTRATION IN FULFILLING ITS MANDATE

WHEREAS, the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that, the State shall conserve, promote, and popularize the nation's historical and cultural heritage and resources, as well as artistic creations. Furthermore, 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.¹

WHEREAS, Intramuros - otherwise known as The Walled City, is the 64-hectare historic core of Manila, the capital of the Philippines; and throughout the Spanish colonial period, was the seat of the Spanish government.

WHEREAS, in 1951, after the reconstruction of the wall due to the damages caused by the Second World War, Intramuros was declared a National Historical Landmark.

WHEREAS, then President Ferdinand Marcos established the Intramuros Administration through Presidential Decree No. 1616 which

¹ Section 15 and 16 of Article XIV of the 1987 Philippine Constitution

was mandated to preserve and enhance the historical value of Intramuros, the national historical consciousness program demands its restoration, development and maintenance as a monument to the Hispanic period of our history.

WHEREAS, the Intramuros Administration envisioned Intramuros as an iconic tourism site that honors the Philippines' glorious past – a thriving and vibrant future-proof livable city, built on a foundation of shared values and a genuine Filipino sense of community.²

WHEREAS, in addition to the revenues generated from the operations and commercial transactions of the Intramuros Administration, it received funds annually from the national government for its conservation and preservation services; for the year 2017, it received P14,081,000.00 and P423,932,000.00 in 2016.

WHEREAS, despite the availability of fund, the Intramuros Administration failed to undertake plans for the restoration, maintenance and development of Intramuros. It also failed to maintain the orderliness of the premises as there have been numerous obstructions and eyesores such as unauthorized structures, piles of garbage, illegally parked vehicles, vendors, among others.

WHEREAS, not only did the Intramuros Administration allegedly was inefficient in fulfilling its mandate, it has also failed to secure its perimeter from intrusion of informal settlers making a mockery of a fortress historically known as The Walled City

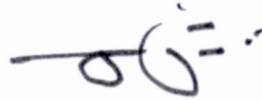
WHEREAS, in addition to the issues in informal settlers and failed conservation of property, the Intramuros Administration allowed businesses to operate inside Intramuros without valid contracts; lease or contract deals with tenants or lessees of commercial spaces were not renewed even though the contracts were expired since 2010, thereby causing Intramuros to lose P1.176 million.

Whereas, there has been reports that the City of Manila has signified its intention to take control of the administration, operation and conservation of Intramuros to establish order and restore normalcy within its territorial bounds.

² Volume I, General Appropriations Act of 2016

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it hereby resolved, directing the proper Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, to determine and devise a plan and strategy to revitalize, restore, and enhance the historical value of Intramuros and the effectiveness of Intramuros Administration in fulfilling its mandate.

Approved,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'JOE EJERCITO', with a horizontal line extending to the left.

JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO