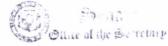
#### SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE ) **REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES** ) )



RECEILLE

Third Regular Session

'19 JAN 15 P2:14

### **SENATE**

P. S. Res. No. 989

# Introduced by Senator Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III

### RESOLUTION

## **DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE(S)** TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE NUMEROUS DATA BREACHES INVOLVING **GOVERNMENT AGENCIES THAT PROCESS AND STORE** PERSONAL DATA FROM THE TRANSACTING PUBLIC

WHEREAS, in the second week of January 2019, Foreign Affairs 1 Secretary Teodoro Locsin, Jr. informed the public through Twitter that the 2 Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) lost the personal data information of 3 millions of Filipino passport holders because its outsourced personal 4 information processor allegedly "took all" applicants' data following the 5 termination of the processor's contract with the DFA; 6 7

8 WHEREAS, while it is unclear at this time what type of data was taken, it is common knowledge that personal information as well as 9 sensitive personal information are disclosed by the applicant during the 10 11 passport application process: 12

WHEREAS, this data breach leaves the data subjects vulnerable to 13 identity theft and may allow cybercriminals to use the stolen data to 14 victimize other people or to engage in fraudulent transactions; 15 16

WHEREAS, the enactment of Republic Act No. 10173 or the "Data 17 Privacy Act of 2012" brought to fore the importance of balancing the 18 State's need for information and communications technology to spur 19 nation-building and the State's obligation to ensure that personal 20 information in information and communication systems are secured and 21 22 protected;

23

WHEREAS, this is not the first instance of a data breach in a 1 2 government agency that processes and stores personal data from the transacting public; 3

5 WHEREAS, the Commission on Elections (Comelec) suffered data breaches twice - the first at the height of the 2016 National and Local 6 Elections with the hacking of its Comelec Voter Information System and 7 the second in February 2017 with a physical breach of data inside the 8 9 Comelec office:

10

4

12

11 WHEREAS, it was reported that the Social Security System (SSS) also suffered a breach in its data record system;

13

14 WHEREAS, considering that several other government agencies are involved in the processing and storage of personal information, such as, 15 but not limited to the Philippine Statistics Authority, Government Service 16 Insurance System, Bureau of Internal Revenue, Philippine Health 17 Insurance Corporation, Pag-IBIG, Land Transportation Office, there is a 18 need for Congress to exercise its oversight functions to audit compliance 19 20 with the law:

21

22 WHEREAS, protecting personal information is a matter of national security and Congress has a duty to protect the country and its people; 23 24

25

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that the Senate of the Philippines direct its appropriate committee(s) to 26 conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the numerous data breaches 27 involving government agencies that process and store personal data from 28 29 the transacting public, specifically to: 30

- a) Require the government agencies that process and store personal data from the transacting public to submit their respective contracts with their personal information processors;
- 34 35

36

37

38 39

31

32

33

- b) Audit compliance of these agencies with the Data Privacy Act of 2012; and
- c) Propose amendments to the Data Privacy Act of 2012, if needed.

Adopted,

AOUILINO'"KOKO" PIMENTEL III