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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: _____

P. S. Res. No. 242

Introduced by Senator Cynthia A. Villar

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND AGRARIAN REFORM TO INVESTIGATE ON THE PROLIFERATION OF "FAKE FERTILIZERS," AND CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CONCRETE SOLUTIONS BEING UNDERTAKEN BY THE FERTILIZER AND PESTICIDE AUTHORITY UNDER THE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

1 WHEREAS, the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) was created thru the
2 Presidential Decree No. 1144. It is a technically-oriented government authority
3 equipped with the required expertise to regulate, control, and develop both the
4 fertilizer and the pesticide industries;

5 WHEREAS, fertilizers and pesticides are vital inputs in food production and must
6 be supplied in adequate quantities at reasonable costs;

7 WHEREAS, early this year, fertilizer prices have been seen rising due to supply
8 snags, production woes and the war which has disrupted trade with Russia, a big
9 supplier of every major type of crop nutrient;

10 WHEREAS, consequently, news reports circulate regarding the proliferation of
11 "fake fertilizers" in local markets particularly in Pangasinan, Ilocos Norte and Cagayan
12 Valley;

13 WHEREAS, the results of the laboratory analysis conducted by the Laboratory
14 Services Division of the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority (FPA) on random samples in
15 the market of Agrimate 9-10-9 granular, Golden Agro Plus, Mula granular fertilizer,
16 Turbo prime multi-elements, Turbo Prime 14-4-21, Xian-bee complete 14-14-14
17 granular, Takada 14-14-14, Will-Grow Granular, Vine Agro 14-14-14, Vine Agro Bulk

1 Blended, among others, failed to meet the required standard based on their respective
2 guaranteed analysis;

3 WHEREAS, these fertilizers are used for rice crop and were sold at a lower price
4 than their counterpart's original and registered products;

5 WHEREAS, crop nutrients are crucial to boosting food production. Lower
6 fertilizer use may mean a smaller crop harvest;

7 WHEREAS, a 14-14-14 fertilizer guarantees 14% Nitrogen and 14% Potassium
8 which are key input in rice production. These "fake fertilizers" posed as having the
9 guaranteed amount of nutrients in fact contain much less, or almost none (1.20-
10 0.03%), of those nutrients;

11 WHEREAS, the proliferation of these "fake fertilizers" happens at the wake of
12 the economic downturn brought about by the pandemic where prices of basic
13 commodities are high;

14 WHEREAS, the victims of the handlers of these "fake fertilizers" are the poor
15 rice farmers who are still grappling with the effects of inflation;

16 WHEREAS, the vulnerable farmers who are victimized with these "fake
17 fertilizers" turn out that they paid for useless fertilizers from their meager income, but
18 still not getting their expected crops, and in the end, losing hope for the next cropping
19 season;

20 WHEREAS, some of the companies involved have been served by the FPA a
21 Stop Sale, Stop Use, Stop Move and Hold (SUMS) Order and all its FPA-issued licenses
22 have been suspended until its compliance with FPA's recommended corrective actions;

23 WHEREAS, issuance of SUMS and suspension of FPA licenses are not sufficient
24 to put a stop to these unfair trade tactics;

25 WHEREAS, the people responsible for manufacturing and introducing to the
26 public these "fake fertilizers" must be criminally prosecuted and penalized with heftier
27 penalties and not just mere suspensions or revocation of licenses;

28 WHEREAS, it is imperative to investigate this matter and review existing laws
29 and policies being implemented by the government with the end in view of adopting
30 measures to address this concern not only to safeguard the farmers but also to protect
31 and promote Philippine Agriculture;

1 **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved, directing the
2 Senate Committee on Agriculture, Food and Agrarian Reform to investigate on the
3 proliferation of "fake fertilizers" and conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the
4 concrete solutions being undertaken by the Fertilizer and Pesticide Authority under
5 the Department of Agriculture.

Adopted,



CYNTHIA A. VILLAR

Senator