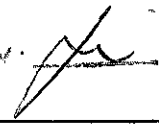


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SENATE  
P.S. Res.-No. 6

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Introduced By Senator Loren Legarda

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**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICES TO CONDUCT AN IMMEDIATE INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE OIL SPILL IN THE MANGROVE AREA IN BARANGAY TALIBAYOG, CALATAGAN, BATANGAS WITH THE END IN VIEW OF DETERMINING THE POSSIBLE LIABILITY FOR THIS MARINE POLLUTION INCIDENT AND RECOMMENDING APPROPRIATE ACTION**

*WHEREAS*, Article II Section 16 of the Constitution provides that, "The State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature";

*WHEREAS*, on 4 July 2010, Rodrigo De Jesus, Chairman of Bantay Dagat in Calatagan, Batangas, reported the presence of an oil spill in the mangrove area in Brgy. Talibayog, Calatagan, Batangas;

*WHEREAS*, it was also reported that four vessels were seen in the area shortly before the oil spill occurred;

*WHEREAS*, the Philippine Coast Guard has dispatched oil-spill response teams to determine the origin and extent of the oil spill and to conduct emergency clean-up operations;

*WHEREAS*, the Department of Environment and Natural Resources - Region 4A has likewise been investigating the oil spill;

*WHEREAS*, according to the initial assessment of the Philippine Coast Guard Marine Environment Protection Group, the oil spill has already affected at least 960 square meters of the mangrove area, endangering the marine ecosystem therein;

*WHEREAS*, the oil spill threatens the livelihood of fishermen in the area, having been deprived of any catch since the time the incident occurred;

*WHEREAS*, the local community is concerned about the possible health impacts of the oil spill, particularly because some residents have complained of difficulty in breathing due to the oil fumes;

*NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED*, as it is hereby resolved, to direct the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources and Committee on Public Services to conduct an immediate inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the oil spill in the mangrove area in Barangay Talibayog, Calatagan, Batangas with the end in view of determining the possible liability for this marine pollution incident and recommending appropriate action.

Approved,



**LOREN LEGARDA**

Senator