

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

8 JUL 21 P3:00

SENATE  
P.S.R. No. **517**

RECEIVED BY: 

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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RESOLUTION  
COMMENDING THE BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION FOR ITS LAUDABLE  
EFFORTS IN THE SPEEDY DISPOSITION OF CASES RESULTING IN THE  
DRAMATIC DECLINE IN THE NUMBER OF DETAINEES  
AT ITS DETENTION CENTER

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 3, Section 16 states: "All persons shall have the right to a speedy disposition of their cases before all judicial, quasi-judicial, or administrative bodies";

WHEREAS, according to news report in the 10 July 2008 issue of the *Manila Bulletin*, in a Value for Money Audit done by the Commission on Audit (CoA) for government operations last year, the Bureau of Immigration (BI) was cited for the speedy disposition of detainees' cases resulting in the dramatic decline in the number of detainees as the BI detention center in Bicutan, Taguig City;

WHEREAS, in a report to Congress on its audit of operations of all government agencies, the CoA cited BI's success in reducing the number of detainees at the Bicutan detention center as "notable efforts of decongesting the BI Detention Center through fast and rational resolution of cases". The CoA report provides that this resulted in the reduction of expenses even as it eased the agony of waiting on the part of detainees. CoA chair Reynaldo Villar said that considering the short period the program was implemented that started in midway of 2007, the bureau accomplished a major task that is worth a commendation;

WHEREAS, the CoA cited the decrease in the number of detained aliens by 76 percent as of 31 December 2007, as proof that the decongestion program of the bureau through disposition of cases was effectively implemented; the report also said that at the beginning of 2007, a total of 411 detainees were housed inside the facility but 314 cases were acted upon with dispatch. Ninety seven of these cases were dismissed, 109 foreigners were deported, 44 were placed under recognizance, 61 aliens were allowed to post bail, and three were transferred;

WHEREAS, the report recommended that the bureau continue its notable efforts of decongesting the BI detention center through fast and rational resolution of pending cases in order to reduce expenses and ease the agony of waiting on the part of the detainees.

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to commend the Bureau of Immigration for its laudable efforts in the speedy disposition of cases resulting in the dramatic decline in the number of detainees at its detention center.

Adopted,

/fldp

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO