


OFFICE

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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

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SENATE

RECEIVED BY 

P.S. Res. No: 250

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR MANNY VILLAR

**RESOLUTION**

**URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES, CULTURAL COMMUNITIES, AND AGRICULTURE AND FOOD TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE REPORTED DISAPPEARANCE OF RARE SPECIES "DOJO" OR RARE EEL, THE MOST VALUED BIRD "TALA", AND OTHER ENDANGERED SPECIES IN THE CORDILLERA AS A RESULT OF COMMERCIAL FARMING DESTROYING THUS THE BIODIVERSITY OF THE REGION'S RICE TERRACES CULTURE WITH THE END IN VIEW OF FORMULATING STRATEGIES TO PROTECT OUR ECOSYSTEM**

WHEREAS, Article II Section 16 of the 1987 Constitution states 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, the indigenous people of the Cordillera Region practice indigenous system that nurtures the land and forest, and it has kept the biodiversity and ecosystems intact for centuries;


WHEREAS, with the government's open-door policy for big business such as commercial production of vegetables and large-scale mining, the Cordillera's traditional practices are rapidly eroding;

WHEREAS, due to intensive capital investments, the traditional system gave way to commercial farming resulting in an increase in demand for commercial farm inputs, the toxic chemical contents of which have threatened the region's ecosystems;

WHEREAS, commercial farming has contributed not only to the rapid disappearance of the "dojo" (Japanese eel or loach), and other insects which are food sources of the household, but also "tala", considered as one of the most valued species of birds in the region, despite being small, could drive away the larger hawks and crows that prey on chickens;

**RESOLVED**, by the Senate of the Philippines, to urge the Senate Committees on Environment and Natural Resources, Cultural Communities and Agriculture and Food to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, into the reported disappearance of rare species "dojo", "tala" and other endangered species in Cordillera as a result of commercial farming destroying thus the biodiversity of the Region's Rice Terraces culture with the end in view of formulating strategies to protect our ecosystem.

Adopted,



**MANNY VILLAR**