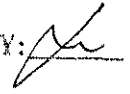




FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

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SENATE
P.S. RES. NO. 381

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Manny B. Villar

RESOLUTION

URGING THE COMMITTEES ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS, AGRICULTURE AND FOOD, ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO STUDY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE FEASIBILITY OF EACH CITY ESTABLISHING ITS OWN CITY GARDEN AND PROMOTING THAT A CERTAIN PERCENTAGE OF IDLE BUILDING SPACES AND ROOFTOPS LOCATED WITHIN ITS JURISDICTION BE APPORTIONED TO URBAN FARMING

Whereas, Article XIII, Section 5 states "[t]he State shall recognize the right of farmers, farmworkers, and landowners, as well as cooperatives, and other independent farmers' organizations to participate in the planning, organization, and management of the program, and shall provide support to agriculture through appropriate technology and research, and adequate financial, production, marketing, and other support services;"

Whereas, as of 2007, the Philippines' population stands at 88,574,614 with an annual population growth rate of 2.04% as of 2007;

Whereas, according to a study in 2008 made by World Bank, 65% of the Philippine population lives in urban areas;

Whereas, it is widely known that land is a major constraint in urban areas as due to growing demand for housing requirements, thus cultivated lands are pushed away from the cities;

Whereas, there are still idle home and building spaces and idle lands in the urban areas which can be used for horticulture;

Whereas, considering all factors such as income and food intake preference, studies show that with urbanization and modernization, there is a progressive decline in the vitamin and mineral content of the food supply of the people living in urbanized areas;

Whereas, city gardens or city farming can be a promising means of improving the quality of urban diets as harvests from these gardens can be an easy source of cheap fruits and vegetables to the people;

Whereas, urban gardens should be encouraged as this promotes self-reliance rather than dependency and may even be superior to urban food interventions such as transfers and subsidies;

Whereas, city gardens can likewise address climate change as it transform empty lots or rooftops and any idle areas into productive green zones which can absorb carbon dioxide;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to urge the Committees on Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Food, Environment and Natural Resources and Local Government to mandate that each city establish its own city garden and promote that a certain percentage of idle building spaces and rooftops located within its jurisdiction be apportioned to urban farming.

Adopted,



Manny Villar
Senator