

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Resolution No. 756



Introduced by Hon. Robert Ace S. Barbers

**A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ACCOUNTS TO
CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALLEGED
\$370 MILLION (P18.7 BILLION) IN FOREIGN CURRENCIES BROUGHT INTO
THE PHILIPPINES BY TWO SUSPECTED SYNDICATES**

WHEREAS, Customs Commissioner Rey Leonardo B. Guerrero, in a Jan. 29, 2020 report to Finance Secretary Carlos G. Dominguez III, disclosed that two groups identified as "Chinese," had sneaked in \$167.97 million while the "Rodriguez" had \$200.24 million in foreign currencies for the period December 2019 to February 202;

WHEREAS, according to the said report, Rodriguez group had been infusing money into Excellent Forex Inc. from 17 July 2019 until January 2020;

WHEREAS, the report disclosed that these couriers had been able to escape detection because they are escorted by member of the Philippine National Police (PNP), the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) or of the airport police department at the Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA);

WHEREAS, the report also disclosed that the couriers of these suspected dirty money get paid P12,000.00 to P50,000.00 per flight and flew two to three times a week carrying up to two pieces of luggage packed with cash;

WHEREAS, in the United States, the bringing in of such huge amounts was tantamount to "bulk cash smuggling" and red flags are immediately raised by authorities to determine if the money is intended for laundering, terrorism, spying and other crimes;


WHEREAS, here in the Philippines, it appears that there is a 'free-for-all' for suspected money launderers, drugs and other crime syndicates to do their thing under the cover of being a tourist and employed as POGO workers;

WHEREAS, since the liberal entry of POGO workers started last year, there had been numerous and various crimes committed by Chinese nationals, and they include kidnap-for-ransom, murder, drug peddling, prostitution, illegal online gambling, among others. And these do not include other local possible social, labor and security issues.

WHEREAS, it is of national importance to investigate the alleged smuggling of \$370 Million whether the said smuggling is connected to POGO and money laundering or other crimes and to determine the involvement of the concerned government agencies and their inability to prevent the said alleged smuggling;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVE, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to direct the Committee on Public Accounts to conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, into the alleged smuggling of \$370 Million (P18.7 Billion) in foreign currencies by suspected syndicates.

Adopted.


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