Eighteenth Congress First Regular Session

753

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO.

RECEIVED

A TIME: DOVERSED

BY:

Introduced by Representative Deogracias Victor "DV" B. Savel

## RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY TO BAN THE IMPORTATION AND USE OF INDUCTION FURNACES IN THE PHILIPPINES DUE TO THEIR HARMFUL EFFECTS ON THE ENVIRONMENT AND THE RISKS THEY IMPOSE UPON PEOPLE

WHEREAS, an induction furnace is an electrical furnace that uses heat to melt metals, but lacks the refining capacity to remove harmful elements in liquid steel, thus, produces substandard quality of steel products that fracture easily and pose safety hazards when used as construction materials;

WHEREAS, in 2017, China has banned the use of induction furnace due to its substandard product quality and harmful effects on the environment;

WHEREAS, on January 24, 2018, the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) Iron and Steel Council, during the ASEAN Senior Economic Officials meeting in Singapore submitted a statement of concern regarding shipment of obsolete induction furnaces from China to the neighboring countries, like Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Singapore, Vietnam, and the Philippines, stating that ASEAN has become the dumping ground for these obsolete induction furnaces:

WHEREAS, other ASEAN countries have already expressed their concerns on the proliferation of induction furnaces and prohibited the use of induction furnace manufactured steel for public works projects;

WHEREAS, the proliferation of obsolete induction furnaces in our country has triggered environmental concerns on pollution and safety issues for both workers and surrounding communities because induction furnaces do not have the anti-pollution device that hinders the release of hazardous substances and harmful gases, thus, generating a high degree of pollutants that endanger the health and environment:

WHEREAS, to protect the health and welfare of the people, and to ensure that all steelmaking facilities in the Philippines are compliant with environmental standards and product quality, there is a need to ban the use of induction furnaces that cause detrimental effects on our environment and steelmaking industry: Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, To urge the Department of Environment and Natural Resources and Department of Trade and Industry to ban the importation and use of induction furnaces in the Philippines due to their harmful effects on the environment and the risks they impose upon people.

Adopted,

DEOGRACIAS VICTOR "DV" B. SAVELLANO