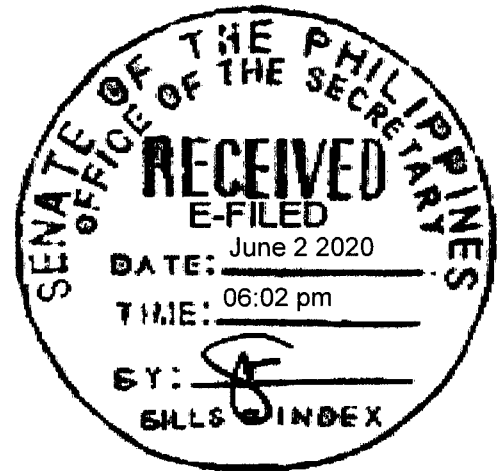


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 435

INTRODUCED BY: SENATOR EMMANUEL D. PACQUIAO

**A RESOLUTION
SEEKING A LEGISLATIVE INQUIRY ON AVAILABILITY AND ACCESSIBILITY
OF CELL SITES PROVIDING BANDWIDTH FOR INTERNET CONNECTIVITY
ACROSS THE COUNTRY**

WHEREAS, to conform with the demands and the situation of COVID-19 pandemic, access to internet has become a necessity for work, distance learning, connectivity, economic transactions, among others;

WHEREAS, this increase in demand resulted to significantly slower internet connectivity as an increased population shares common bandwidth in many areas;

WHEREAS, the Philippines has been dubbed to have the slowest internet connection in Southeast Asia despite ranking to among the countries having the most expensive broadband subscriptions;

WHEREAS, the Better Broadband Alliance (BBA), and advocacy group, called on the telcos to launch portable cell sites that can be deployed right away to address the slower internet connectivity in affected areas;

WHEREAS, cell sites on wheels or portable cell towers are resorted by telcos to restore service in areas affected by natural disasters;

WHEREAS, the deployment of these cell sites on wheels or portable cell towers will also help to address the government programs and plans on shifting towards distance learning and virtual communications to promote physical distancing;

WHEREAS, with Philippine telcos charging hefty internet bills to consumers compared with other countries, it is but right for the telcos to ensure providing quality service and expansion of its availability and accessibility to more communities;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to conduct a Senate inquiry on the feasibility of installation of more portable cell sites and the capacity of telcos to make internet connectivity more accessible to all communities across the country.

Adopted,



EMMANUEL P. PACQUIAO