SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)



Second Regular Session)

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SENATE

P.S. Res. No. <u>513</u>

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by SEN. WIN GATCHALIAN

RESOLUTION AMENDING SECTION 13 (6) RULE X OF THE RULES OF THE SENATE IN VIEW OF THE EXPANSION OF THE JURISDICTION OF THE COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC AFFAIRS

WHEREAS, The Rules of the Senate under Section 13 (6) Rule X (The Committees) provides the following duties, powers and general jurisdiction of the Committee on Economic Affairs:

6) **Committee on Economic Affairs.** – Nine (9) members. All matters relating to economic planning and programming; the planning of domestic and foreign public indebtedness; general economic development; and coordination, regulation and diversification of industry and investments.

WHEREAS, on August 8, 2015, Republic Act No. 10667 or the Philippine Competition Act took effect. The law is the primary competition policy of the Philippines for promoting and protecting competitive market, protecting the well-being of consumers, and preserving the efficiency of competition in the marketplace. It established the Philippine Competition Commission as its independent quasi-judicial regulator against anti-competitive mergers and acquisitions, anti-competitive agreements, and abuses of market dominance;¹

WHEREAS, this game changing legislation is expected to promote consumer protection and accelerate investment and job creation in the country, consistent with the national government's goals of creating more inclusive economic growth and development, ensuring that markets are open

 $^{^1\} http://phcc.gov.ph/pcc-marks-one-year-anniversary-philippine-competition-act/$

and free, encouraging efficiency, innovation and private investments, among others;

WHEREAS, the present Rules of the Senate do not specifically state the committee which has jurisdiction over matters relating to the implementation of our national policies on competition;

whereas, the main provisions of the Philippine Competition Act – defining, prohibiting and penalizing anti-competitive agreements, abuse of dominant position, and anti-competitive mergers and acquisitions – as well as its Constitutional goals of equitable distribution of opportunities, income, and wealth, and sustained economic growth for the benefit of the people, are subject matters related to those falling under the jurisdiction of the Committee on Economic Affairs;

WHEREAS, the national policy on competition was enacted to primarily spur economic growth and attain pertinent development goals for the national economy – matters that fall clearly and coherently within the ambit of the present jurisdiction of the Committee on Economic Affairs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved to amend Section 13 (6) Rule X of The Rules of the Senate by expanding the jurisdiction of the Committee on Economic Affairs to read as follows:

6) **Committee on Economic Affairs.** – Nine (9) members. All matters relating to economic planning and programming; the planning of domestic and foreign public indebtedness; general economic development; [and] coordination, regulation and diversification of industry and investments, AND MATTERS RELATING TO COMPETITION.

Adopted,