

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1126



Introduced by Rep. TEODORO A. CASIÑO

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON GOOD GOVERNMENT TO INVESTIGATE ALLEGED OVERPRICING AND OTHER IRREGULARITIES IN THE PROCUREMENT OF INSTANT NOODLES IN LINE WITH THE FEEDING PROGRAM OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Whereas, the Department of Education (DepEd) has allocated P2 billion in 2009 for “Malusog na Simula, Yaman ng Bansa”, a feeding program where 19 million public school children will be given fortified rice, powdered milk, instant noodles and biscuits for 120 feeding days in order to augment their daily nutritional requirements;

Whereas, under the said feeding program of the DepEd, a public bidding for the supply and delivery of 19,418,880 packs of fortified instant noodles with fresh egg and malunggay was concluded on February 27, 2009;

Whereas, the contract for the specified volume of instant noodles, which was awarded to Jeverps Manufacturing Corporation, has an approved budget of P427,215,360.00 which means that a 100-gram pack of instant noodles would cost P22.00 as compared to prevailing retail prices of commercial noodles that range from P5.00-15.00, depending on the brand and flavor;

Whereas, Jeverps Manufacturing Corporation was the same supplier in the DepEd’s P284-million procurement of 15 million packs of instant noodles in 2008, and even then, its price of instant noodles per pack, which was placed at P18.00, was already much higher than retail prices in the market;

Whereas, laboratory tests allegedly made by experts from Vietnam, Malaysia, Hong Kong and South Korea showed that the noodles supplied by Jeverps Manufacturing Corporation had no egg content, but was made purely of wheat flour with egg flavoring, contrary to its claim that the product contained fresh egg and malunggay;

Whereas, the alleged non-conformity of the quality of the products supplied by Jeverps Manufacturing Corporation to the package description specified by the DepEd, and the apparent overpricing of the commodity renders questionable the DepEd's procurement procedures and shows tell-tale signs of violations of existing laws and policies covering graft and corruption and plunder;

Whereas, the best quality of all goods that are made available to marginalized Filipinos whether for free or at subsidized costs by the government through its various programs, such as the Malusog na Simula, Yaman ng Bansa feeding program for school children, must not be compromised at any time;

Whereas, it is ironic and deplorable that such a noble project for giving public school children better nutrition is apparently being used to feed the greed of DepEd officials and their favored suppliers;

Whereas, it is the mandate of Congress, specifically the Committee on Good Government to look into any malfeasance, misfeasance or nonfeasance in office committed by officers and employees of the government;

Now, be it resolved as it is hereby resolved, that the House Committee on Good Government immediately conduct an investigation into allegations of overpricing and other irregularities in the purchase of fortified instant noodles in line with the feeding program of the Department of Education.

Adopted,


REP. TEODORO A. CASIÑO
Bayan Muna