

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 9



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Introduced by  
**BAYAN MUNA Party-List Representatives CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE,  
EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT and FERDINAND R. GAITE,  
ACT TEACHERS Party-List Representative FRANCE L. CASTRO,  
GABRIELA Women's Party Representative ARLENE D. BROSAS,  
and KABATAAN Party-List Representative SARAH JANE I. ELAGO**

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**RESOLUTION**  
**DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON ENERGY TO CONDUCT AN**  
**URGENT INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALLEGED**  
**PREDATORY PRICING AND/OR OVERPRICING OF OIL PRODUCTS**  
**HIDDEN BY THEIR UNBUNDLED OIL PRICES**

WHEREAS, in the 17<sup>TH</sup> Congress, Bayan Muna filed House Resolution 415 to investigate the alleged predatory pricing of oil products, particularly in Mindanao in 2016;

WHEREAS, during the hearings on the said resolution, it has been ascertained by the Committee on Energy the imperative need for oil companies to open their books and show their unbundled data as to how they compute oil prices;

WHEREAS, oil companies tried to stall and circumvent the order of the committee to present this data. First they promised to present the data requested by Bayan Muna but only presented piece meal data after a year of insistence by the committee. Second, the data they presented was incomplete which prompted the Committee Chairman to warn them that the documents would be subpoenaed if they would not submit it immediately;

WHEREAS, during the course of the hearing Bayan Muna chairman Neri Colmenares said that Congress does not even have to request the said data from oil companies because under the Oil Deregulation Law Sections 12 and 15 the Department of Energy (DOE) Secretary himself can summon the documents needed;

WHEREAS, it is with the Committee's insistence then that using the law the DOE can formulate a memorandum for the unbundling of oil prices so that consumers can see if there is indeed predatory pricing or over pricing of oil products. Last June, the DOE finally issued Memorandum ordering the unbundling of the oil prices to be effective on July 4;

WHEREAS, after three (3) years since the filing of the resolution and the publication of the unbundling memo, oil companies are doing all they can to stop the implementation of the law even in the midst of allegations of abusing their power to determine prices under the regime set by the Oil Deregulation Law;

WHEREAS, the people deserve a full and transparent explanation from the oil companies as to the formula in computing higher fuel prices in their area. For one, if prices can be lowered in Mindanao or other parts of the country, then, there is no reason why prices in the rest of the country cannot be lowered as well;

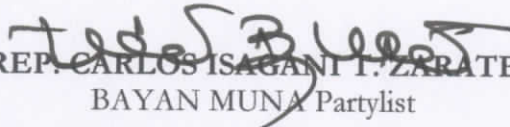
WHEREAS, there is a need for the House of Representatives to exercise its investigative powers, in aid of legislation, in pursuit of such an explanation particularly whether it is now timely to have the Oil Deregulation Law repealed;

WHEREAS, should there be a finding that the prices imposed are without basis and therefore predatory or overpriced these excessive impositions should be stopped and these oil companies including their distributors should be made accountable for such acts.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives direct its Committee on Energy to conduct an urgent inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the alleged predatory and/or overpricing of oil products hidden by their unbundled oil prices.

*Adopted,*


*Adopted,*


  
REP. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE  
BAYAN MUNA Partylist

  
REP. FERDINAND R. GAITE  
BAYAN MUNA Partylist

*Cullamat*  
REP. EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT  
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