Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 9

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

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 17TH 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 ISAGAIN T. ZARATE
BAYAN MUNA Partylist

REP. EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT
BAYAN MUNA Partylist

REP. ARLENE D. BROSAS
GABRIELLA Women's Party

REP. FERDINAND R. GAITE
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REP. FRANCIS C. CASTRO
ACT TEACHERS Party-List

REP. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO
KABATAAN Party-List