

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS  
Third Regular Session

House Resolution No. 1518

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*Introduced by TUCP Party-List Representative*  
**HON. RAYMOND DEMOCRITO C. MENDOZA**

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**A RESOLUTION**

**URGING THE PHILIPPINE DELEGATION TO THE UNITED NATIONS FRAMEWORK CONVENTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE (UNFCCC) AND THE SIGNATORIES TO THE COPENHAGEN AGREEMENT TO BE MINDFUL OF THE SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC IMPACTS OF THE NEW PROTOCOL, PARTICULARLY ON THE NEED TO TRANSFORM JOB LOSSES INTO NEW GREEN OPPORTUNITIES FOR PHILIPPINE LABOR, AND PROVIDING SAFETY NETS FOR THE LOCAL LABOR SECTOR.**

**WHEREAS**, the Earth's temperature is changing abruptly – from manageable global warming to irreversible climate change catastrophes – and scientists of the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) now agree that these are anthropogenic or man-made consequences arising from large-scale emissions of greenhouse gases that gravely degrade environment.

**WHEREAS**, the Kyoto Protocol, which mandates a legally binding 5% carbon-cutting target on 1990 baselines to programs that address global warming and climate change, and to which the Philippines is a party to, has not attained the general expectations during its first period of commitment in 2005-2012, and is set to lapse in 2012.

**WHEREAS**, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) has begun global negotiations for a new climate change agreement that will take the place of the Kyoto Protocol, culminating in its signing by world leaders at the 15<sup>th</sup> Conference of Parties (COP-15) in Copenhagen, Denmark in December 2009.

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine delegation to the UNFCCC, headed by the Office of the Presidential Adviser on Global Warming and Climate Change (OPACC), has been leading the negotiations on behalf of the Philippines, with its call for “deep and early cuts” of carbon dioxide emissions by Annex 1 or industrialized countries.

**WHEREAS**, a substantial part of the negotiations for the new protocol is

on **mitigation** or the cutting of carbon emissions, that will entail considerable reduction in the use of fossil fuels in carbon emission-heavy industries, e.g. power and transport sectors, and a shift to “green jobs.”

**WHEREAS**, while the Philippines is a “carbon taker” and not a “carbon maker,” owing to our very low carbon footprint of only 0.3 tons of total world carbon emissions, the Philippine government has however committed to voluntarily reduce carbon emissions, especially in the energy and transport sectors, as part of our mitigation program for climate change.

**WHEREAS**, it is estimated that the Philippine transport sector employs about 2.5 million Filipinos while the local energy sector has a labor force of about 130,000 – which could be affected by the shift to “greener” and “cleaner” industries as our response to climate change.

**WHEREAS**, a recent study on the green jobs generation program of Spain entitled **Study of the Effects on Employment of Public Aid to Renewable Energy Sources** by Dr. Gabriel Calzada, an economics professor at Juan Carlos University in Madrid, showed that for every “green job” created with government funding in Spain over the last eight years “came at the cost of 2.2 regular jobs, and only one in 10 of the newly created green jobs became a permanent job.”

**WHEREAS**, the same study concluded that unemployment rose sharply in Spain when regular jobs were transformed into “green jobs” and government’s renewable jobs program hindered, rather than helped, Spain’s attempts to emerge from its recession.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the House of Representatives urge the Philippine delegation to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the signatories to the Copenhagen Agreement to be mindful of the social and economic impacts of the new protocol, particularly on the need to transform job losses into new green opportunities for Philippine labor, and providing safety nets for the local labor sector;

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, that the Philippine delegation must ensure that the next agreement makes specific mention of employment and income, and will include the promotion of consultation, social protection, vocational training, green jobs creation and dialogue with all stakeholders, including trade unions, at the international, regional, national and local level, as means for fostering and speeding up implementation of effective and employment-sensitive climate change policies.

Adopted,

**RAYMOND DEMOCRITO C. MENDOZA**