

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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2073

Introduced by
Hon. Christopher V.P. de Venecia

A RESOLUTION

URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THROUGH THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CREATIVE INDUSTRY AND PERFORMING ARTS AND OTHER APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATE OF THE PHILIPPINE FURNITURE INDUSTRY AND OTHER RELATED INDUSTRIES

WHEREAS, the Philippine furniture industry aims to be the global design innovator or hub for products using sustainable materials by 2030, with thriving domestic and international markets and a competitive and motivated labor force;

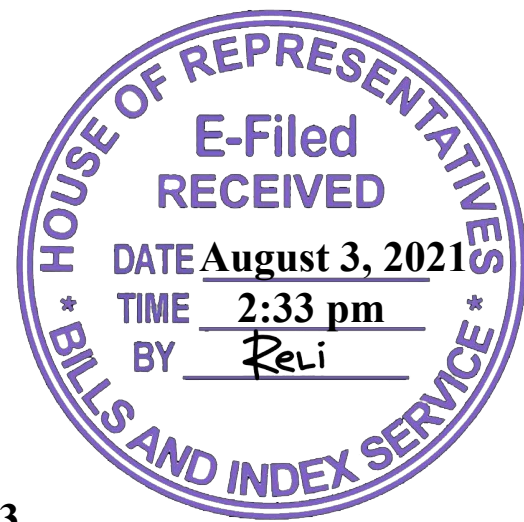
WHEREAS, to achieve this, the industry has committed to focus its programs on four (4) key development factors, namely, product development, marketing, capacity building, and advocacy and to achieve a 10-15% annual growth rate for the industry;

WHEREAS, the industry is 98% categorized under micro, small, and medium enterprises, provides 2.1 million indirect workers nationwide, and provides business to 5.4 million in its supply chain, with the three major furniture production areas in the country located in Metro Manila, Pampanga and Cebu;

WHEREAS, furniture exporters from the Philippines have penetrated furniture retail stores around the world, leading to a peak of total exports of 490 Million US Dollars in 2004, which figure, however, gradually decreased over time;

WHEREAS, in 2018, ASEAN countries exported a total of 12.1 Billion US Dollars' worth of wooden furniture out of the global total of 150 Billion Dollars, signifying a low percentage share of Filipino exports;

WHEREAS, due to the onslaught of the Covid-19 pandemic, sales in the furniture industry dropped significantly due to factors such as failure to collect from buyers due to financial contraction, cancellation of orders, the designation of the industry as non-essential, and the unpreparedness of the industry to shift to digital platforms;




WHEREAS, even before the pandemic, factors such as high shipping costs and the ageing population of its labor force have contributed to the decline in productivity and revenues in the industry;

WHEREAS, to achieve the industry's goal for 2030 pursuant to its industry's roadmap as endorsed by the Board of Investments, the aforementioned issues, among other issues that are impeding the growth and development of the Filipino furniture industry, must be addressed;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the House of Representatives, that the Special Committee on Creative Industry and Performing Arts, as well as other appropriate committees of the House of Representative, be urged to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, to discuss the state of the Philippine Furniture Industry and other related industries, with the end view of addressing the pressing issues that are causing the downward economic trends in the industries, as well as maximizing the Filipinos' raw talent and passion in the field of furniture

Adopted,


HON. CHRISTOPHER V.P. DE VENECIA

Sources:

<http://innovate.dti.gov.ph/resources/roadmaps/furniture-garments/>

<https://www.nationthailand.com/business/30378848>