



Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
*Second Regular Session*

House Resolution No. 1820



---

Introduced by Representative Sharon S. Garin

---

**A**

**RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON WAYS AND MEANS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE AUTOMATION AND MODERNIZATION PROGRAM OF THE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS WITH THE END VIEW OF ACHIEVING THE OBJECTIVES PROVIDED FOR UNDER R.A. NO. 10863 OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE CUSTOMS MODERNIZATION AND TARIFF ACT (CMTA)**

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act No. 10863, otherwise known as the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA) primarily mandates full automation of customs clearance and process in the Bureau of Customs as part of abating corruption by lessening, in not eradicating, face-to-face transaction and providing discretion to its employees.

**WHEREAS**, it has already been five (5) years since the passage and effectivity of the CMTA particularly in this time of pandemic that information and communication technology (ICT) has become an important and necessary way of Filipinos' lives.

**WHEREAS**, early this year, the Bureau of Customs has launched its automation program and the legislators are expecting to see substantial and major changes in the old system of the Bureau where personnel discretion will become a thing of the past.

**WHEREAS**, in all stages of customs clearance process, from lodgment, declaration of the goods, payment of the duties and taxes, releases, inventory to the post clearance audit including the monitoring of the container vans inside and outside the bonded warehouses, container yards, economic zones, and other customs premises must have been within the click of the hand of the Bureau through ICT without subjecting to any discretion of the personnel.

**WHEREAS**, among the reported vulnerable system that will complement the system in placed was the inventory of all going in and out of the containers to avoid and deter the diversion and missing containers. There has to be a system that shall

uprise the command center of the Bureau of containers left in its jurisdiction that includes warehouses, off-dock and off-terminal customs facilities and warehouses, economic zone, and other customs territories and jurisdiction.

**WHEREAS**, Section 1200 of the CMTA provides that other customs service provider shall be accredited in accordance with the rules and regulations issued by the Secretary of Finance, upon the recommendation of the Commissioner. In relation to this, Customs Administrative Order No. 14-20 was issued providing for the rules on value-added service providers (VASP) in the Bureau.

**WHEREAS**, any service provider must comply with the mandates of CMTA and of the respective CAO, a requirement placed to avoid and deter discretionary decision of any personnel or stakeholders involved in the customs clearance process and ultimately, prevent corruption and smuggling.

**WHEREAS**, it is imperative to uprise the legislators who crafted the law if the said legislation has been properly and diligently implemented so as to achieve the very purpose of the law.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the House of Representatives**, urging the Committee on Ways and means to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the automation and modernization program of the Bureau of Customs with the end view of achieving the objectives provided for under Republic Act No. 10863, otherwise known as the Customs Modernization and Tariff Act (CMTA).

Adopted,



**SHARON S. GARIN**  
Party-list, AAMBIS-OWA