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

18th Congress
Third Regular Session

House Resolution No. 2023

Introduced by HON. RODRIGO A. ABELLANOSA

A RESOLUTION URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE ALLEGED IRREGULARITIES IN THE JOINT VENTURE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY GOVERNMENT OF CEBU AND MEGAWIDE CORPORATION FOR THE REDEVELOPMENT OF CARBON MARKET AND ITS ADJACENT SITES

WHEREAS, the Carbon market is the oldest and biggest farmers’ market in Cebu City. It is located downtown, specifically on M.C. Briones Street, Brgy. Ermita, Cebu City;

WHEREAS, the land areas on which Carbon Market is currently situated were donated by the national government on the condition that the market’s administration shall be under the city government;

WHEREAS, in 2019, Megawide Corporations submitted an unsolicited proposal to the Cebu City Government expressing intent to renovate and restore Compania Maritima and to modernize Freedom Park, which includes parts of the Carbon Market and its adjacent sites;

WHEREAS, despite non-compliance with a number of technical and procedural requirements, the local government of the City of Cebu entered into a Joint Venture Agreement (JVA) with the project proponent, Megawide Corporation.

WHEREAS, Cebu City Vice Mayor Michael Rama, presiding officer of the Sangguniang Panlungsod, in a public statement on April 18, 2021, admitted that there are some defects in the signed JVA;

WHEREAS, the Cebu City United Vendors Association, the Cebu Market Vendors Multipurpose Cooperative, and barangay officials from Brgy. Ermita, Cebu City are appealing to the Cebu City government to reconsider the terms of the JVA as they are highly disadvantageous to the thousands of tenants
and workers whose livelihood depend solely on the city’s largest wet market, including particularly the privatization of the market’s administration;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives of the Republic of the Philippines, to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation through its Committee on Local Government on the aforementioned execution of a Joint Venture Agreement in order to ensure that micro and small entrepreneurs are protected from being driven out of business by the more affluent industry players.

Adopted,

[Signature]

RODRIGO A. ABELLANOSA