Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City  

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Third Regular Session  

House Resolution No. 2184  

Introduced by  
ANAKALUSUGAN PARTY-LIST REPRESENTATIVE MICHAEL T. DEFENSOR,  

RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION IN AID OF LEGISLATION BY 
THE PROPER COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES 
REGARDING THE OVERPRICED PROCUREMENT OF GROCERY PACKS 
BY THE QUEZON CITY GOVERNMENT  

WHEREAS, Section 1, Article XI of the 1987 Constitution states that, “Section 1. Public office is a public trust. Public officers and employees must, at all times, be accountable to the people, serve them with utmost responsibility, integrity, loyalty, and efficiency; act with patriotism and justice, and lead modest lives.”  

WHEREAS, Section 4 (A)(a) of R.A. 6713 adds that “Public officials and employees shall always uphold the public interest over and above personal interest. All government resources and powers of their respective offices must be employed and used efficiently, effectively, honestly and economically, particularly to avoid wastage in public funds and revenues.”  

WHEREAS, the Quezon City (QC) local government unit, through Purchase Order 2012134, procured 350 thousand grocery packs at a per pack cost of PhP1,149.98 for a total of PhP402,493,000.00;  

WHEREAS, the contents of the grocery pack, if bought at retail prices in local grocery or sari-sari stores, should have cost us taxpayers only PhP636;  

WHEREAS, the PhP1,149.98 price per pack, which was a result of a negotiated sale between the QC government and Thyme General Merchandise (a sole-proprietorship), is PhP513.98 (44%) more expensive than its counterpart in local groceries;  

WHEREAS, considering the present pandemic, the Quezon City government and its Commission on Audit (COA) resident auditor should have practiced basic prudence to compare the retail prices of grocery items in local grocery stores to the price offered by Thyme General Merchandise;
WHEREAS, in this case, there was an unconscionable total overprice of PhP179 Million which is contrary to the policy set forth in the Constitution and R.A. 6713 that there be no wastage in public funds and revenues, if not an outright violation of the Plunder Law;

THEREFORE, be it resolved as it is hereby resolved, that the proper Committee of the House of Representatives, conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation regarding the overpriced procurement of grocery packs by the Quezon City Government.

Adopted,

MICHAEL T. DEFENSOR
Anakalusugan Party-List