



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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1801

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 FASHION AND TEXTILE INDUSTRIES
AND OTHER RELATED INDUSTRIES

WHEREAS, in May 2021, the Financial Times published a special report on the top 500 high-growth companies in the Asia-Pacific region, which included Golden ABC, Inc., a Filipino fashion enterprise that is home to retail brands like *Penshoppe*, *OXGN*, *Regatta*, *ForMe*, *Memo*, and *BOCU*;¹

WHEREAS, in March 2021, local fashion brand *Aranáz* became the latest brand to be showcased at the e-commerce site of American luxury department store Neiman Marcus, a shopping destination for consumers with exquisite taste since 1907, carrying many brands and designer labels, from Alexander McQueen, Prada, and Donna Karan to Balmain, Gucci, and Louis Vuitton, proving that even during a pandemic situation, Filipino brands and designers have what it takes to make it internationally;²

WHEREAS, in January 2021, Prestige Online, Hong Kong's definitive luxury online magazine, featured the latest collection of *harlan + holden*, a brand that originated in Manila in 2015 and is now headquartered in Seoul, South Korea, solidifying the Filipinos' ability to reach international heights in the fashion industry;³

¹ <https://www.bworldonline.com/twenty-filipino-companies-make-it-to-ft-ranking-of-fastest-growing-companies/>

² <https://mb.com.ph/2021/03/30/homegrown-fashion-brand-aranaz-is-now-available-at-neiman-marcus/>

³ <https://www.prestigeonline.com/id/style/fashion/introducing-harlan-holden-01-the-first-collection-by-alessandra-facchinetti-for-the-seoul-based-brand/>

WHEREAS, notwithstanding the steadily growing popularity of the Filipino brand of fashion throughout the world, the industry continues to face its challenges, which are being exacerbated by the current Covid-19 pandemic situation;

WHEREAS, on March 11, 2021, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) propounded before the Special Committee on Creative Industry and Performing Arts a presentation on the Opportunities and Prospects of a Creative Philippine Textile Economy;

WHEREAS, the DTI reported that the value of output of our fashion and textile industries has dropped from a high of more than 40 billion pesos in 1999 to a low of 20 billion pesos in 2012, while employment plummeted from 60 thousand employees in 1999 to 20 thousand employees in 2012;

WHEREAS, the DTI further reported that the country's export products in the garment industry, which include apparel and clothing accessories, have dropped gradually from a value of as high as 2.5 billion dollars in 2006 to just over 500 million dollars in 2020;

WHEREAS, the DTI has pointed to factors such as the lack of supply of natural raw materials, outdated equipment, and the high cost of labor as the leading reasons why our country slowly lost competitiveness to other countries;

WHEREAS, the DTI has proposed key measures on how to address the downward trend of several economic indicators as to the state of Philippine fashion and textile industries, including the revival and enhancement of the competitiveness of creative textile industry through the creation of a roadmap focused on innovation, market-oriented research and development, and measures to address supply and value chain gaps, which can only be achieved through increased and intensified collaboration among the various stakeholders from the government, the industry, and the academe, among other stakeholders;

WHEREAS, the irony of Filipino brands that are growing in global popularity on the one hand, and the decreasing economic indicators of the domestic fashion and textile industries on the other hand, as elucidated upon by the DTI, cannot simply be ignored by the Philippine government;

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 Fashion and Textile Industries 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 fields of fashion and textile.

ADOPTED,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Christopher V.P. De Venecia', written in a cursive style.

**HON. CHRISTOPHER V.P. DE
VENECIA**