

Republic of the Philippines  
Congress of the Philippines  
**Senate**  
Pasay City

*Fourteenth Congress*

*Second Regular Session*



RESOLUTION NO. 131

RESOLUTION CONCURRING IN THE  
RATIFICATION OF THE JAPAN-PHILIPPINES  
ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT  
(JPEPA)

WHEREAS, on 9 September 2006, the Japan-Philippines Economic Partnership Agreement (JPEPA) was signed by Her Excellency Gloria Macapagal Arroyo, President of the Republic of the Philippines, and by His Excellency Junichiro Koizumi, then Prime Minister of Japan, in Helsinki, Finland;

WHEREAS, on 22 August 2007, President Arroyo transmitted the JPEPA (here attached as Annex A) to the Senate of the Republic of the Philippines for its concurrence as required by the Philippine Constitution, Article 7, Section 21;

WHEREAS, the Philippines has enjoyed a long and mutually-beneficial relationship with Japan in the economic, political, scientific and cultural fields;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Senate is cognizant of the need to develop economic opportunities for Filipinos and to promote and develop new forms of economic engagement with the Philippines' most important trading partners, including Japan;

WHEREAS, the Committees on Foreign Relations; and Trade and Commerce jointly conducted nine (9) hearings on the following dates with their respective topics of discussion:

14 September 2007	-	Trade and Investment
20 September 2007	-	Economics
27 September 2007	-	Environmental Effects
4 October 2007	-	Movement of Natural Persons
8 October 2007	-	Movement of Goods and Services and Constitutional Issues
8 November 2007	-	Trade in Goods; Agriculture and Industry And Other Matters
23 November 2007	-	Trade in Goods; Agriculture and Industry
13 December 2007	-	Trade in Agricultural Goods
20 December 2007	-	Trade in Agricultural Goods Trade in Industrial Goods and Other Matters

WHEREAS, all concerned government agencies, non-government organizations (NGO's), representatives from the industry sector, academe and trade experts and other stakeholders were invited to the committee hearings and were given the opportunity to present their position papers;

WHEREAS, the Committee on Foreign Relations and the Committee on Trade and Commerce prepared a joint report entitled: "Joint Committee Report on the JPEPA Part 1: Constitutional Aspects"; and "Part 2: Trade and Services Aspects," both recommending concurrence in the JPEPA;

WHEREAS, pursuant to the Constitution, Article 7, Section 21, "No treaty or international agreement shall be valid and effective unless concurred in by at least two-thirds of all the Members of the Senate": Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the Senate of the Philippines concur, as it hereby concurs, in the ratification of the Japan-Philippines Economic Partnership Agreement (JPEPA) as modified by the Supplemental Agreement consisting of the Exchange of Notes Between the Philippine Secretary of Foreign Affairs and the Japanese Minister of Foreign Affairs known as the Romulo-Aso Exchange of Notes of 23 May 2007 and the Exchange of Notes between the Philippine Secretary of Foreign Affairs and Japanese Ambassador to the Philippines known as the Romulo-Komura Exchange of Notes of 28 August 2008.

*Resolved, further*, That the above exchanges of notes are intended to be agreements between the Parties and shall be considered an integral part of this Agreement.

Adopted,



MANNY VILLAR  
*President of the Senate*

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on October 8, 2008.



EDWIN B. BELLEN  
*Acting Senate Secretary*