

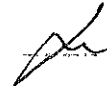
FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
SECOND REGULAR SESSION)

OFFICE OF

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SENATE
P.S. Res. 1022

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Introduced by Sen. Ramon Bong Revilla, Jr.

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, TO ADDRESS THE PLIGHT OF OUR FILIPINO
SEAFARERS HELD CAPTIVE IN SOMALIA

Whereas, the piracy of the coast of Somalia, increased international concerns over the safety of seafarers;

Whereas, since the year 2007, fifteen ships carrying Filipino crews were captured by Somali pirates;

Whereas, the Taiwanese vessel FV Ching Fong Hwa 168 which enlists in its crew, two Filipinos was hijacked on May 28, 2007 and was released after six months in captivity;

Whereas, in the year 2008, 13 shipping vessels were captured with more or less 120 Filipino crews on board;

Whereas, in the January of 2009 the oil tanker MV Longchamp with a crew of 12 Filipinos was captured and was freed only after the payment of ransom;

Whereas, the Greek cargo ship MV Titan was hijacked last March 19 and enlisted a crew of 17 Filipinos and was released last April 16, 2009;

Whereas, the tanker MV Nipayia was captured by Somali pirates last March 25, 2009 and has a crew consisting of 18 Filipinos and is still in captivity;

Whereas, these Filipino seafarers along with other seafarers faced hardship in their captivity by the Somali pirates;

Whereas, these Somali pirates upon capture of shipping vessels demand ransom from the families and governments of their captives;

Whereas, the families of these captured Filipino seafarers faced grief, anxiety and distress over the safety of their relatives;

Whereas, these Filipino seafarers braved the foreign waters overseas to provide a better future for their families;

Whereas, these Filipino seafarers' obligation of helping their families are jeopardized by their captivity instigated by the pirates of Somalia;

Whereas, the government of the Philippines must uphold the protection of its people;

Whereas, the government of the Philippines must enact laws that protect its people from dangers such as piracy;

NOW, AND THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate to direct the appropriate Senate Committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, to address the plight of our Filipino seafarers held captive in Somalia.

Adopted,



RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.