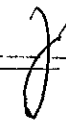


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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1405

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE
TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,
ON THE REPORT THAT UNMONITORED TOURISM-RELATED ACTIVITIES
CONTINUE TO DAMAGE BORACAY CORAL REEFS

1 WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 16 provides: “The State shall protect and
2 advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm
3 and harmony of nature”;

4 WHEREAS, the *Philippine Daily Inquirer* on 9 June 2015 reported that unmonitored
5 tourism-related activities such as diving and snorkeling caused coral reef cover in Boracay to
6 decline by 70.5 percent from 1988 to 2011;

7 WHEREAS, the *Inquirer* was quoting the Coastal Ecosystem Conservation and Adaptive
8 Management (CECAM), which includes data from 2010 to 2015, gathered by researchers and
9 scientists from Japanese International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the Tokyo Institute of
10 Technology, and the University of the Philippines;

11 WHEREAS, the highest decrease in the 23-year period was recorded in recent years,
12 from 2008 to 2011, when tourist arrivals reportedly went up by 38.4 percent;

13 WHEREAS, the study said corals play an important role in protecting the beach from
14 erosion by reducing the impact of the waves;

15 WHEREAS, the *Inquirer* also quoted Filipino scientist Miguel Fortes, saying that the
16 discharge of untreated water along the shore may have contributed to coral reef deterioration ;

17 WHEREAS, Congress should take into account the findings of the study in crafting
18 legislation that will mitigate the environmental impact of tourism activities;

19 WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct
20 the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the report that
21 unmonitored tourism-related activities continue to damage Boracay coral reefs.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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