

SENATE

15 AUG 20 P3:33

P.S. Res. No. 1528

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC SERVICES AND APPROPRIATE COMMITTEES IN THE SENATE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, *IN AID OF LEGISLATION*, INTO THE SEAWORTHINESS OF OUR MARINE VESSELS TO MINIMIZE ENVIRONMENTAL THREATS POSED BY SEA MISHAPS IN LIGHT OF THE RECENT ACCIDENT OF PASSENGER FERRY MV WONDERFUL STARS WHICH CAUGHT FIRE MINUTES AFTER IT DOCKED IN ORMOC CITY PIER

WHEREAS, it is the policy of the State to take measures to ensure the safety of the general public;

WHEREAS, passenger roll-on, roll-off vessel MV Wonderful Stars caught fire on 15 August 2015 minutes after it berthed at the Ormoc City Port from Cebu City;


WHEREAS, all 544 passengers, 30 of whom minors, and 39 officers and crew disembarked the ship safely except for two crewmen who were injured and suffered minor burns;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Coast Guard fears the possibility of an oil spill and damage to the harbor should the 1,200-gross ton vessel, which was acquired from abroad ten years ago, remain in Ormoc City in the face of typhoons threats;

WHEREAS, there is a need for the Maritime Industry Authority to conduct inspection of water transportation vehicles to ensure the seaworthiness of our marine vessels and ensure the safety of the general public and to minimize threats to the environment posed by sea mishaps;

RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the Senate of the Philippines directs the Senate Committee on Public Services and appropriate Senate committees to conduct an inquiry, *in aid of legislation*, into the seaworthiness of our marine vessels to minimize environmental threats posed by sea mishaps in light of the recent accident of passenger ferry MV Wonderful Stars which caught fire minutes after it docked in Ormoc City Pier.

Adopted,


SEN. MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID