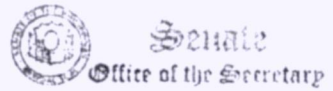


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

SENATE



P.S.R. No. 74

'19 AUG -6 P5:21

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR RISA HONTIVEROS

RECEIVED BY

**RESOLUTION**

**CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION IN AID OF LEGISLATION INTO THE STRATEGIC SECURITY IMPLICATIONS OF THE DEVELOPMENT BY FOREIGNERS OF FUGA, GRANDE, AND CHIQUITA ISLANDS AS WELL AS THE PROPERTY FORMERLY KNOWN AS ISLAND COVE RESORT**

**WHEREAS**, it was recently reported that foreign investors were targeting several islands in Luzon for development as economic and tourism areas;

**WHEREAS**, according to the Cagayan Economic Zone Authority (CEZA), it signed a memorandum of understanding with Xiamen-based Fong Zhi Enterprise Corp. for the development of a USD 2-billion "Smart City" on Fuga Island in the Babuyan archipelago;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine Navy considers Fuga Island a "strategic feature" as it controls access to the Luzon strait, both sides of the Pacific Ocean, and the South China Sea;

**WHEREAS**, Fuga Island also contains a private airfield on an adjacent islet and lies astride a submarine telecommunications cable connecting the Philippines with mainland Asia;

**WHEREAS**, it was also reported that the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority (SBMA) entered into an agreement with GFTG Property Holdings and the Sanya CEDF Sino-Philippine Investment Corp. for the development of the Grande and Chiquita Islands for similar purposes;

**WHEREAS**, both islands were previously used as military outposts by both Spain and the United States during their colonization of the Philippines and sit at the mouth of Subic Bay, some 260 kilometers from the disputed Panatag Shoal in the West Philippine Sea;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine Navy has stated that control of Fuga, Grande, and Chiquita Islands is essential to maintaining Philippine maritime strategic security;

**WHEREAS**, the 32-hectare Island Cove Resort property in Kawit, Cavite was purchased by a still-unknown investor and converted into a Philippine Offshore Gaming Operator (POGO) complex with housing facilities for an estimated 20,000 foreign workers; and

**WHEREAS**, Island Cove is around 3.5 kilometers from Danilo Atienza Air Base, home of the Philippine Air Force's 15<sup>th</sup> Strike Wing, and Naval Base Heracleo Alano, containing the Naval Sea System Command, which operates the Armed Forces of the Philippines' largest industrial complex – the military shipyards providing repair and maintenance for all navy ships and aircraft.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED TO URGE THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO INQUIRE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE STRATEGIC SECURITY IMPLICATIONS OF THE DEVELOPMENT BY FOREIGNERS OF FUGA, GRANDE, AND CHIQUITA ISLANDS AS WELL AS THE PROPERTY FORMERLY KNOWN AS ISLAND COVE RESORT.**

Adopted.

  
**RISA HONTIVEROS**  
*Senator*