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FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE Republic of the Philippines Second Regular Session

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SENATE

HECEIVED BY:

P.S. Resolution No. <u>671</u>

Introduced by Honorable Senator JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

## **A RESOLUTION**

COMMENDING THE TWELVE FILIPINO SEAFARERS OF M/T CLIPPER TROJAN AND M/V WINDSOR CASTLE FOR HELPING IN THE PROSECUTION OF OWNERS AND OPERATORS OF B. NAVI SHIP MANNING SERVICES AND CLIPPER MARINE SERVICES WHO ILLEGALLY DUMPED TOXIC WASTES INTO THE OCEAN

WHEREAS, six Filipino crewmen of MT Clipper Trojan, a carrier owned by the Danish company Clipper Marine Services and six Filipino crewmen of the MV Windsor Castle, a bulk carrier vessel owned by the Italian shipping company B. Navi Ship Management Services, reported vessels' dumping of toxic wastes into the ocean sometime in 2006 and 2007 respectively;

**WHEREAS**, international and US laws prohibit the discharge of ships' waste oil without treatment by a device, an oil-water separator, and US law also requires that all of the waste oil be kept in tanks and recorded in the ship's book for accounting during US Coast Guard inspections;

**WHEREAS**, the Filipino seamen's testimonies resulted in B. Navi pleading guilty to breaking the anti-pollution law in 2007, and was consequently sentenced by the Texas federal court last February 2008 to pay \$1.4 million in fines;

**WHEREAS**, Filipino seamen's testimonies resulted in Clipper Marine Services' likewise guilty plea to illegally discharging oil sludge in 2006, for which the New Jersey federal court sentenced it last June 2008 to pay a \$4.75 million penalty;

**WHEREAS**, the six seamen were duly recognized the United States government through a ceremony in US Embassy in Manila last September 23, 2008 and have been rewarded by the US government ranging from \$25,000 to \$175,000 per seaman;

**WHEREAS**, the exemplary action made by our Filipino seamen proves that Filipino mariners indeed have the global competitive advantage over other nationalities in terms of knowledge, skills and attitude, and especially in their concern for the ocean;

**WHEREAS**, our seafarers, who have been renowned globally for their dedication to work and strict adherence to laws, continue to be a source of pride and inspiration for all Filipinos worldwide;

**RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, to commend the twelve Filipino seafarers of M/T Clipper Trojan and M/V Windsor Castle for helping in the prosecution of owners and operators of B. Navi Ship Manning Services and Clipper Marine Services who illegally dumped toxic wastes into the ocean.

Adopted,

JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

Senator