

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES *First Regular Session*

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RECEIVED BY:

SENATE P.S.R. No. 306

Introduced by Senator Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III

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RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE FULL SUPPORT AND ACTIVE PARTICIPATION OF THE SENATE IN THE OBSERVANCE OF WORLD OCEANS DAY ON JUNE 8 OF EVERY YEAR

6 WHEREAS, Article II, Section 16 of the 1987 Constitution 7 provides for the State policy to "protect and advance the right of the 8 people to a balanced and healthful ecology in accord with the rhythm 9 and harmony of nature";

WHEREAS, two thirds of the Earth's surface is ocean, and the oceans are home to an enormous number of plants and animals. Oceans produce half the oxygen we breathe, absorb about 95% of the sun's radiation, and are by far the largest absorber of carbon dioxide in the world, according to United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs;

WHEREAS, the United Nations General Assembly, in recognition
of the link between oceans and climate change and the impact of
climate change on coastal communities, resolved that beginning 2009,
June 8 will be designated as World Oceans Day;

WHEREAS, the Republic of the Philippines is a signatory to the Paris Agreement on Climate Change held in September 2015 to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, most especially Goal 14, which aims to conserve and use oceans, seas, and marine resources for sustainable development; WHEREAS, the Senate seeks to sustain the momentum in providing the political universal commitment needed to realize international cooperation and synergistic actions on ocean affairs, most especially its conservation and sustainable management;

WHEREAS, the Senate expresses its serious concern over the 5 high vulnerability of the Philippines to climate change, according to 6 Global Climate Risk Index 2016, being an archipelagic nation that is at 7 the receiving end of eight to nine typhoons per year and at the same 8 time a victim of exceptional catastrophes such as Typhoon Ketsana 9 ("Ondoy") in 2009, Typhoon Washi ("Sendong") in 2011, Typhoon 10 Bopha ("Pablo") in 2012, Typhoon Haiyan ("Yolanda") in 2013, and 11 Typhoon Rammasun ("Glenda") in 2014; 12

WHEREAS, with the end view of encouraging direct involvement among the citizens and instilling upon them their intergenerational responsibility in the conservation and sustainable management of the oceans, the Senate is conscious of the need to heighten public awareness and profound understanding of the vital role of the oceans in the survival of all life;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY 19 THAT THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES RESOLVED, 20 **SUPPORT** AND ACTIVE **EXPRESS** ITS FULL 21 WORLD PARTICIPATION THE **OBSERVANCE** OF IN 22 **OCEANS DAY ON JUNE 8 OF EVERY YEAR.** 23

Adopted,

AQUILÍNO' "KOKO" PIMENTEL III

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