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OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session	í

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S E N A T E P. S. Res No. 368

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE TRAVEL ADVISORIES ISSUED BY SEVERAL COUNTRIES TO THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES REPORTED TO HAVE ADVERSE EFFECTS ON THE TOURISM INDUSTRY DEVELOPMENT AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

WHEREAS, according to news reports, tourists have started to cancel trips to the Philippines particularly in Central Visayas due to numerous travel advisories¹;

WHEREAS, the Chair of Rajah Tours Philippines, Alejandra Clemente said that among those who canceled were 500 travelers from Japan, who made reservations at a five-star hotel in Cebu and would have spent about P30 million in the country during their visit²;

WHEREAS, according to Credit Suisse Group, a leading financial services company, the recent travel advisories issued by several governments to specific destinations in the Philippines could pull down the contribution of the tourism industry in the country's overall economic growth³;

WHEREAS, the United States of America, France, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, and South Korea had issued travel advisories to their citizens to take extra precaution in traveling in Central Visayas especially in Bohol and Cebu⁴;

WHEREAS, the advisories are brought about by terrorist threat, the presence of Abu Sayyaf in Central Visayas⁵;

WHEREAS, according to Department of Tourism (DOT), Assistant Secretary, Ricky Alegre, the DOT is sensitive to the travel advisories issued by different countries as it might affect the tourism industry in the country⁶;

Inquirer News Website, Travelers cancel Philippine bookings, http://www.philstar.com/headlines/2017/04/20/1692069/travelers-cancel-philippine-bookings

Inquirer News Website, Travel advisories dampen Phl Growth, http://www.philstar.com/business/2017/05/02/1695728/travel-advisories-dampen-phl-growth Ibid.

⁵ Ibid.

⁶ Supra [citation 1]

WHEREAS, he added that they are now closely coordinating with the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine National Police to address the issue⁷;

WHEREAS, the issuance of various travel advisories to the country warrants an inquiry in aid of legislation to prevent further losses in the tourism industry;

BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED to direct the proper Senate committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the travel advisories issued by several countries to the Republic of the Philippines adversely affecting the tourism industry.

Adopted,

T/M/m/J MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY

⁷ Ibid.