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Introduced by **Senator Richard J. Gordon**

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RESOLUTION
RECOGNIZING THE EFFORTS OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA, MOON JAE-UN, IN THE EFFORTS TO BRING RECONCILIATION AND DEVELOPMENT NOT ONLY IN THE KOREAN PENINSULA BUT ALSO IN THE PHILIPPINES

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 2 of the 1987 Constitution states, "the Philippines renounces war as an instrument of national policy, adopts the generally accepted principles of international law as part of the law of the land and adheres to the policy of peace, equality, justice";

WHEREAS, Article II, Section 7 of the same Constitution states, "the State shall pursue an independent foreign policy. In its relations with other states, the paramount consideration shall be national sovereignty, territorial integrity, national interest, and the right to self-determination";

WHEREAS, as a step towards peace, President Moon Jae-un of the Republic of Korea (South Korea) has attended the three sessions of the 2018 Inter-Korean Summit Pyongyang to meet with Chairman Kim Jong-un of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (North Korea) for the improvement of the Inter-Korean relationship, the acceleration of North Korea-U.S. dialogue on denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula, and the easing of military tension between the South and the North;

WHEREAS, the declaration includes practical steps aimed at boosting inter-Korean exchanges and cooperation, covering infrastructure, tourism, healthcare, reunions of Korean War – separated families, arts and performances, and even sports, the re-opening of the shuttered Gaeseong Industrial Complex and resume the stalled Geumgangsan Mountain tours, as well as increased cooperation on environmental measures, especially on forestry, and on health care concerning the prevention of any inflow or spread of contagious diseases;

WHEREAS, the parties have agreed to adopt a set of concrete measures to denuclearize the Peninsula with Pyongyang vowing to shut down its missile engine testing facility and missile launch pad with experts from allied countries participating in the process with a permanent closing of its nuclear facilities in Yeongbyeon, in line with corresponding U.S. action;

WHEREAS, the Republic of Korea has extended this friendship to the Philippines. The Philippine-Korean Relation started on 03 March 1949 when the Philippines became the fifth country to recognize the Republic of Korea, which was inaugurated on 15 August 1948;

WHEREAS, the friendship between the two nation was strengthened by the deployment of the Philippine Expeditionary Force to Korea (PEFTOK) during the Korean War in the 1950s to help South Korea defend itself from the invasion of the North;

WHEREAS, bilateral relations between the two countries continue to grow in the following areas: political, security, economic, socio-cultural and development fields, among others. The Republic of Korea is the seventh largest trading partner of the Philippines with a total trade of about USD 10.6 billion;

WHEREAS, the Republic of Korea is the country's top source of tourists reaching 1.6 million in 2017;

WHEREAS, aside from strong bilateral relations between the two nations with bilateral trade totaling, USD7.7 billion in 2016, the Republic of Korea has provided aid and assistance to the Philippine Government throughout the years;

WHEREAS, on 2017, the Official Development Assistance (ODA) of Korea to the Philippines was at USD 574.34 million (USD 480.74 million loans, USD 93.6 million grants) which makes Korea the sixth highest development partner of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, on 04 May 2018, the two nations signed a USD 1 billion Framework Arrangement on Loans from the Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) which will finance multiple infrastructure projects until 2022, such as the Korean Infrastructure Center projects in Clark, Pampanga;

WHEREAS, the Philippines is currently the third largest EDCF partner of Korea. The EDCF was established on 01 June 1987 with the purpose of promoting economic cooperation between Korea and developing countries;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Senate has in several occasions recognized both international and national leaders and organizations that have brought development through reconciliation and friendship; *Now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate, as it is hereby resolved, recognizing the efforts of the President of the Republic of Korea, Moon Jae-un, in the efforts to bring reconciliation and development not only in the Korean Peninsula but also in the Philippines.

Adopted,



RICHARD J. GORDON