

1 **EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE** )  
2 **REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES** )  
3 *Second Regular Session* )  
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7 **SENATE**  
8 **P.S. Resolution No. 525**

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10 Introduced by **Senator Aquilino “Koko” Pimentel III**  
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12  
13 **RESOLUTION**

14 **CONGRATULATING HIS EXCELLENCY, SHINZO ABE, FOR HIS HISTORIC**  
15 **TENURE AS JAPAN’S LONGEST SERVING PRIME MINISTER AND**  
16 **COMMENDING HIM FOR HIS SIGNIFICANT CONTRIBUTIONS TO**  
17 **STRENGTHENING AND BROADENING THE RELATIONS BETWEEN JAPAN**  
18 **AND THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES**  
19

20 **WHEREAS**, Prime Minister Shinzo Abe first served as Prime Minister of Japan in  
21 2006 to 2007. In 2012, he returned as his country’s leader once more with the electoral  
22 victory of the Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) under his helm, which has now extended  
23 to more than seven years and two hundred fifty days until his announcement of his  
24 intention to resign on 28 August 2020, thus, making him the longest-serving Prime  
25 Minister in Japan’s history;  
26

27 **WHEREAS**, in January 2017, Prime Minister Abe, as a testament to the importance  
28 he gave to the relations between Japan and the Philippines<sup>1</sup>, was the first Head of State to  
29 visit our country under President Rodrigo Duterte’s administration<sup>2</sup>. Likewise, he  
30 embarked on two other official visits to the Philippines back in December 2006 and July  
31 2013 under the administrations of former Presidents Gloria Macapagal Arroyo and  
32 Benigno S. Aquino III, respectively. He is the only Japanese Prime Minister who has dealt  
33 with three Philippine Presidents;  
34

35 **WHEREAS**, Japan and the Philippines are strategic partners. Japan is one of only  
36 two countries with this kind of special relationship with the Philippines, the other one  
37 being the United States of America;  
38

<sup>1</sup> <https://globalnation.inquirer.net/151461/japanese-prime-minister-abe-arrives-ph-official-visit>, accessed last 29 August 2020.

<sup>2</sup> <https://www.reuters.com/article/us-philippines-japan-idUSKBN14W0XY>, accessed last 29 August 2020.

1           **WHEREAS**, Prime Minister Abe has paid great attention and value to Japan’s  
2 strategic relationship with the Philippines. He continued and deepened this Strategic  
3 Partnership and offered to be a partner in our peace-building efforts, particularly in the  
4 Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM), by being involved in  
5 various mechanisms like the International Monitoring Team (IMT), the International  
6 Contact Group (ICG) and the Independent Commission on Policing (ICP), and has been  
7 very supportive in the rehabilitation efforts of Marawi City which had been ravaged by  
8 extremist terrorists. Japan has also contributed to the upgrading of our defense security  
9 capabilities, particularly in maritime security, in the transfer of defense equipment and  
10 technology such as PCG patrol vessels, high-speed boats, surveillance radars, and TC-90  
11 maritime patrol aircrafts;

12  
13           **WHEREAS**, during his official visit to the Philippines, Prime Minister Abe  
14 officially declared the Golden Age of Philippines-Japan relations and pledged Japan’s  
15 Official Development Assistance (ODA) for the Philippines under the “Build, Build,  
16 Build Program” in the amount of JPY1 trillion for the period 2017-2022;

17  
18           **WHEREAS**, under Prime Minister Abe, the total bilateral trade between the  
19 Philippines and Japan has been robust and strong, with Japan being the Philippines’ top  
20 three trading partner, and the Philippines’ consistent top source of investments. It was also  
21 during his term where the Japanese Government relaxed substantially the single-entry and  
22 multiple-entry visa requirements for Filipino nationals, making it possible for more  
23 Filipinos to work and live in Japan;

24  
25           **WHEREAS**, under the leadership of Prime Minister Abe, Japan has showed  
26 consistent support to the Philippines, even amidst their own challenges during this  
27 time of the pandemic, by contributing to the Philippines’ efforts against COVID-19  
28 by inviting us to participate in the 42-country clinical trials of the anti-viral drug  
29 Avigan; donating US\$3.16 million Dollars in emergency assistance coursed through  
30 the UNHCR, UNICEF, Red Cross; and granting a JPY50 billion emergency response  
31 loan and other assistance coursed through private donations;

32  
33           **WHEREAS**, Prime Minister Abe’s tenure as Prime Minister of Japan is historic  
34 and significant because of his commitment to maintain a close relationship with the

1 Philippines which has brought our relations to where it is now - reinvigorated, strong,  
2 friendly, and cooperative.

3

4 *Now therefore, be it resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the*  
5 *Philippines*, to congratulate and commend Prime Minister Shinzo Abe for his historic  
6 tenure as Japan's longest serving Prime Minister, leading a democratic Japan to stability  
7 and prosperity, under economic policies bearing his name ("Abenomics") which had  
8 many successes for the good of the Japanese People, and for strengthening and broadening  
9 the relations between Japan and the Republic of the Philippines.

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11 *Resolved, finally*, that a copy of this Resolution be furnished the Office of the Prime  
12 Minister in Japan, through the Japanese Embassy in Manila and the Philippine Embassy  
13 in Tokyo.

14

15 *Adopted,*

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AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III