

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



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SENATE

P.S. Resolution No. 303

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator Ronald "Bato" M. dela Rosa

RESOLUTION

COMMENDING THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM UNDER THE LEADERSHIP OF ITS PRESIDENT, HIS EXCELLENCY VƯƠNG ĐÌNH HUỆ, FOR STRENGTHENING PHILIPPINES-VIETNAM INTER-PARLIAMENTARY RELATIONS

1 WHEREAS, the Philippines and Vietnam are commemorating the 46th
2 anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations this year, 2022;

3 WHEREAS, Vietnam is the Philippines' sole Strategic Partner in ASEAN after
4 having signed on 17 November 2015 a Joint Statement recognizing the evolving
5 political, economic and security architecture in the region, as well as the
6 consolidation of the ASEAN Community amidst an increasingly globalized and
7 interdependent world economy; reaffirming ASEAN Centrality in the promotion and
8 maintenance of peace, stability and security in the region;

9 WHEREAS, the Strategic Partnership aims to comprehensively elevate
10 political, economic and cultural cooperation; develop and strengthen engagement in
11 key functional areas; and build upon and enhance existing bilateral mechanisms,
12 operationalize concluded agreements, and explore new avenues to deepen the
13 engagement between the governments of the Philippines and Vietnam;

14 WHEREAS, an important anchor of this Strategic Partnership is maritime
15 security, including cooperation on the South China Sea, where both the Philippines
16 and Vietnam are littoral States and have agreed to regularly convene the Philippines-
17 Vietnam Joint Commission on Maritime and Ocean Concerns (JPWG-MOC) that
18 serves as a platform for dialogue, practical cooperation and capacity-building

1 activities on maritime issues, with the same full confidence in its potential in
2 strengthening further our Strategic Partnership;

3 WHEREAS, the undersigned went on an Official Visit to Hanoi and held a
4 bilateral meeting with the Honorable Lieutenant General Tran Quang Phuong, Vice
5 Chairman of the National Assembly, in Hanoi on 31 October 2022, where both
6 countries acknowledged the importance of the Strategic Partnership between the
7 Philippines and Vietnam and discussed areas of cooperation including defense,
8 maritime security, pandemic recovery, economy and trade, as well as people-to-
9 people exchanges;

10 WHEREAS, His Excellency Vương Đình Huệ, President of the National
11 Assembly of Vietnam, the 4th highest ranking official in Vietnam's political structure,
12 is leading a delegation to visit the Philippines from 23-25 November 2022 aimed at
13 forging closer parliamentary ties between the Philippines and Vietnam and further
14 strengthening our warm and robust relationship;

15 WHEREAS, the last parliamentary exchanges between the Philippines and
16 Vietnam was in April 2004 when then President of the National Assembly of Vietnam,
17 H.E. Nguyen Van An, invited then Senate President Franklin M. Drilon to visit Hanoi
18 where the latter also met with then Vietnam President, H.E. Phan Van Khai; and in
19 12 September 2006, when then Senate President Manny Villar met with H.E. Nguyen
20 Phu Trong, then President of the Vietnam National Assembly, during the 27th
21 General Assembly of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization (AIPO) in Cebu
22 City, Philippines;

23 WHEREAS, in March 2022, the Vietnamese government donated 200
24 metric tons of rice to Filipino communities devastated by Typhoon Rai on 14
25 September 2022, through the Philippine Embassy in Hanoi in coordination with
26 the Department of Foreign Affairs and the Department of Social Welfare and
27 Development;

28 WHEREAS, as of August 2022, the Philippines remains the top export
29 market of rice from Vietnam, reaching more than 305 thousand tons, valued at
30 US140 million dollars, a sharp increase of 255% in volume as compared to
31 February 2021, and accounting for 65% of total volume and 63% of total value
32 of rice exports;

1 WHEREAS, the Philippines expresses its sincerest appreciation to Vietnam
2 for the unhampered trade of Vietnamese rice to the Philippines despite the
3 pandemic, as the Philippine government continues to closely coordinate with
4 Vietnam to further facilitate unrestricted rice trade;

5 WHEREAS, at the height of the COVID-19 pandemic in May 2020, the National
6 Assembly of Vietnam donated 30,000 face masks to the Congress of the Philippines
7 and RT-PCR extraction kits to the Philippine government worth US50,000 dollars, at
8 the time when these materials were scarce and difficult to procure;

9 WHEREAS, His Excellency Vương Đình Huệ, through his able leadership in
10 promoting and further strengthening parliamentary exchanges, deserves highest
11 commendation as the Senate of the Philippines looks forward to more productive
12 exchanges in the future; Now therefore, be it

13 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved, To commend the
14 National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam under the leadership of its
15 President, His Excellency Vương Đình Huệ, for strengthening Philippines-Vietnam
16 inter-parliamentary relations.

17 RESOLVED FURTHER, that a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the
18 National Assembly of Vietnam.

Adopted,


RONALD "BATO" M. DELA ROSA