

112TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 252

Celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the United States–Philippines Mutual
Defense Treaty.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 2, 2011

Mr. LUGAR (for himself, Mr. KERRY, and Mr. INHOFE) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations

RESOLUTION

Celebrating the 60th Anniversary of the United States–
Philippines Mutual Defense Treaty.

Whereas Filipinos and Americans fought together in World War II, and an estimated 1,000,000 Filipinos gave their lives to defend freedom;

Whereas the United States and the Republic of the Philippines signed the United States–Philippines Mutual Defense Treaty in 1951;

Whereas the Philippines and the United States are long-standing allies, as demonstrated by the Mutual Defense Treaty, cooperation in conflicts since World War II, and the United States designation of the Philippines as a Major Non-NATO Ally;

Whereas the United States Government seeks to maintain an alliance with the Government of the Philippines that promotes peace and stability in Southeast and East Asia, rule of law and human rights, economic growth, counter-terrorism efforts, and maritime security;

Whereas United States naval ships visit Philippines' ports, and the United States and Philippines' military forces participate in combined military exercises under the Visiting Forces Agreement established in 1998;

Whereas the United States Government and the Government of the Philippines work closely together in the struggle against terrorism to make local communities safer and help establish an environment conducive to good governance and development;

Whereas the navy of the Government of the Philippines has received a United States Coast Guard cutter and assistance in establishing a coastal radar system to enhance its monitoring of its waters;

Whereas the United States Government works closely with the Government of the Philippines on humanitarian and disaster relief activities, and in the past has provided prompt assistance to make United States troops, equipment, assets, and disaster relief assistance available;

Whereas the Mutual Defense Board and the Security Engagement Board serve as important platforms for the continuing stability of the long-standing alliance between the Philippines and the United States in a rapidly changing global and regional environment;

Whereas Philippines military forces have supported over the years many United Nations peacekeeping operations worldwide;

Whereas the United States ranks as one of the Philippines' top trading partners, with 11 percent of the Philippines' imports coming from the United States and 15 percent of exports from the Philippines delivered to the United States in 2010;

Whereas total United States foreign direct investment in the Philippines was almost \$6,000,000,000 at the end of 2009;

Whereas the Philippines is one of four countries that has been invited to participate in the new Partnership for Growth Initiative, which promotes broad-based economic growth in emerging markets;

Whereas many Americans and Filipinos have participated in people-to-people programs such as the Peace Corps, the International Visitor Leadership Programs, the Aquino Fellowship, Eisenhower Fellowships, and the Fulbright Scholar Program;

Whereas an estimated 4,000,000 people living in the United States are of Filipino ancestry, over 300,000 United States citizens live in the Philippines, and an estimated 600,000 United States citizens travel to the Philippines each year;

Whereas the alliance between the United States and the Philippines is founded on core values that aim to promote and preserve democracy, freedom, peace, and justice, and is fortified by the two nations' partnerships in defending these values;

Whereas the Government of the Philippines seeks to improve governance, strengthen the rule of law, and further develop accountable, democratic institutions that can better

safeguard human rights, secure justice, and promote equitable economic development; and

Whereas Secretary of State Hillary Clinton met with Foreign Secretary of the Philippines, Albert del Rosario, on June 23, 2011, in Washington, DC, and reaffirmed that the United States and the Philippines are longstanding allies that are committed to honoring mutual obligations, and strengthening the alliance: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That—

2 (1) the Senate—

3 (A) celebrates the 60th Anniversary of the
4 United States–Philippines Mutual Defense
5 Treaty;

6 (B) confirms the alliance’s enduring value
7 as one of the key pillars of peace, stability, and
8 prosperity in the Asia-Pacific region; and

9 (C) encourages both countries to mark this
10 important occasion with continued high-level ex-
11 changes; and

12 (2) it is the sense of the Senate that—

13 (A) the United States Government should
14 propose to the Government of the Philippines
15 that a joint commission be established to review
16 the potential for enhancing security ties be-
17 tween the United States Armed Forces and the
18 Armed Forces of the Philippines, including fa-
19 cilities access, expanded joint training opportu-

1 nities, and humanitarian and disaster relief pre-
2 paredness activities;

3 (B) the United States Government should
4 redouble efforts to expand and deepen the eco-
5 nomic relationship with the Government of the
6 Philippines toward achieving broad-based eco-
7 nomic development in that country, including by
8 working on new bilateral initiatives that support
9 the efforts of the Government of the Philippines
10 to reform its economy and enhance its competi-
11 tiveness, and through trade-capacity building;

12 (C) the private sectors of the United
13 States and the Philippines should be urged to
14 establish a United States–Philippines organiza-
15 tion with a mission to promote actively and ex-
16 pand closer bilateral ties across key sectors, in-
17 cluding security, trade and investment, edu-
18 cation, and people-to-people programs;

19 (D) the Government of the Philippines
20 should continue its efforts to strengthen its
21 democratic institutions to fight corruption, cur-
22 tail politically motivated violence and extrajudi-
23 cial killings, expand economic opportunity, and
24 tackle internal security challenges; and

1 (E) the United States Government should
2 continue efforts to assist the Government of the
3 Philippines in the areas of maritime security,
4 related communications infrastructure to enable
5 enhanced information-sharing, and overall mili-
6 tary professionalization.

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