

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress
1st Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. **700**



Introduced by Representative JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL

**A RESOLUTION
TO URGENTLY CONSTITUTE THE LEGISLATIVE OVERSIGHT
COMMITTEE TO MONITOR AND OVERSEE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
THE VISITING FORCES AGREEMENT WITH THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA**

1 **WHEREAS**, in 1991, in view of the impending expiration of the PH – US
2 Military Bases agreement, negotiations were made for the renewal. On
3 September of 1991, the Senate rejected the *Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation*
4 *and Security* set to extend US bases presence in the Philippines.
5 Notwithstanding the end of the Bases Agreement, Mutual Defense Treaty
6 subsisted;

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8 **WHEREAS**, in 1998, the Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA) between the
9 Philippines and the United States was executed to complement strategic
10 interest of the US and the Philippines in the Asia-Pacific Region. The Senate
11 concurred the first VFA on May 1999. VFA laid down certain provisions on: i)
12 entry and departure of American personnel in the Philippines; ii) regulatory
13 mechanisms for the treatment of American military and civilian personnel
14 visiting the country; iii) criminal and disciplinary jurisdiction of American
15 personnel; iv) importation and exportation of equipment, materials and
16 supplies owned by the American government; and v) movement of American
17 military vehicles, vessels, supplies, and aircraft into and within the country;

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19 **WHEREAS**, on October 4, 2000, the Joint Resolution creating a
20 Legislative Oversight Committee to monitor and oversee the Implementation
21 of the Agreement between the Government of the Philippines and the
22 Government of the United States of America regarding the treatment of the
23 United States Armed Forces visiting the Philippines was adopted;

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25 **WHEREAS**, the said joint oversight committee of both chambers of
26 Congress has not been formed or organized for the 18th Congress of the
27 Philippines.

1
2 **WHEREAS**, present circumstances beg that Congress constitute and
3 convene the Legislative Oversight Committee for the Visiting Forces
4 Agreement to review the subsisting security treaty, which directly affects, not
5 only Philippine national security, but also the stability of the Asia Pacific
6 Region.

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8 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT THE LEGISLATIVE**
9 **OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE TO MONITOR AND OVERSEE THE**
10 **IMPLEMENTATION OF THE VISITING FORCES AGREEMENT WITH THE**
11 **UNITED STATES OF AMERICA BE URGENTLY CONSTITUTED UNDER**
12 **THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES.**

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15 Adopted.

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19 **REP. JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL**