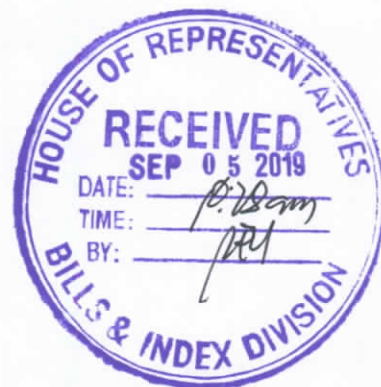




Republic of the Philippines  
**House of Representatives**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila



Eighteenth Congress  
First Regular Session

House Resolution No. 305

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Introduced by Representative Ma. Lucille L. Nava, MD

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**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE AUGUST 3, 2019 SEA TRAGEDY AT THE GUIMARAS-ILOILO STRAIT, WHICH RESULTED IN THE LOSS OF THIRTY-ONE (31) LIVES AND A MARITIME TRANSPORT CRISIS IN THE ENTIRE PROVINCE OF GUIMARAS, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF LEGISLATING MEASURES TO PREVENT THE RECURRENCE OF FUTURE MARITIME TRAGEDIES AND ITS OTHER EFFECTS**

**WHEREAS**, Guimaras, being an island province, utilizes ferry boats, pump boats, and other sea vessels for transport of passengers and hauling of industrial and commercial products to and from the province;

**WHEREAS**, last August 3, 2019, due to strong gusts of wind at the sea, three motor boats capsized in the Guimaras-Iloilo Strait resulting in the loss of thirty one (31) precious lives;

**WHEREAS**, this unfortunate incident had brought questions in the minds of not only the Guimarasnons, but also of the general public with regard to the response measures of the Philippine Coast Guard and other related agencies during maritime disasters;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to review the capability, competency, preparedness and existing protocols of the Philippine Coast Guard to address these maritime incidents, as the agency is the one mandated to safeguard the lives and property in Philippine waters;

**WHEREAS**, the Province of Guimaras, while still reeling from the effects of the August 3, 2019 sea tragedy, cannot fully recover from the incident as the trips of motorbancas are suspended almost every day due to bad weather conditions causing delay in the transportation of passengers and delivery of goods, and existing ro-ro facilities and additional steel hulled boats could not compensate for required sea transportation needs of the province;

**WHEREAS**, almost every year, several maritime disasters occur in the Philippines that resulted in the loss of lives and property and this issue should be of national importance as it affects the maritime community and its stakeholders;

**WHEREAS**, the people of Guimaras are in desperate need of support from the national government, whereby the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of the Province of Guimaras had passed last August 20, 2019 Resolution No. 246 entitled, *“Resolution Imploring the Leadership of the House of Representatives under the Honorable Speaker Allan Peter S. Cayetano through the Honorable Ma. Lucille L. Nava, Representative, Lone District of Guimaras, for the Conduct of a Congressional Inquiry in Connection With the August 3, 2019 Sea Tragedy in Guimaras-Iloilo Strait”*;

**WHEREAS**, there is a need for the Committee of Transportation to conduct a comprehensive investigation on what led to such heart breaking disaster and to hear the plea of all Guimarasnons to set in place mechanisms to prevent the recurrence of future maritime tragedies and other effects it may cause;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the House of Representatives that the Committee on Transportation be directed to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the August 3, 2019 sea tragedy at the Guimaras-Iloilo strait, which resulted in the loss of thirty-one (31) lives and a maritime transport crisis in the entire province of Guimaras, with the end in view of legislating measures to prevent the recurrence of future maritime tragedies and its other effects.

**Adopted,**



**HON. MA. LUCILLE L. NAVA, MD**  
Lone District of Guimaras