

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
*First Regular Session*

House Resolution No. 272



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Introduced by **HON. ROZZANO RUFINO B. BIAZON**

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**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON TOURISM TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF SCUBA DIVING SAFETY RULES AND REGULATIONS**

*Whereas*, the tourism industry remains to be one of the top contributors to the Philippine economy which, according to the Philippine Statistics Authority accounted for around 12.7%;

*Whereas*, the Tourism Direct Gross Value Added (TGDVA), which serves as the indicator to measure the value added of different industries in relation to tourism activities of both inbound and domestic visitors in the country, amounted to PhP 2.2 trillion in 2018;

*Whereas*, among the top draws of our tourism industry are our country's dive destinations that can be considered world-class such as Tubbataha Reef, Apo Reef, Apo Island, Malapascua Island, Anilao, Balicasag, and Tablas to name a few;

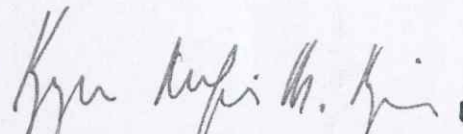
*Whereas*, over the years, the number of dive resorts and enthusiasts, local as well as foreign, has increased more than ten-fold and corollary to this development, there has also been a reported increase in the number of accidents and even deaths, related to the sport of scuba diving;

*Whereas*, a case in point is a reported diving accident which happened on June 3, 2019 in Tubbataha Reef which claimed the life of a diver and wherein elements from the Philippine Navy, Philippine Coast Guard, Tubbataha Management Office and Tubbataha Ranger Station as well as private diving organizations were involved in the search, rescue and recovery operations;

*Whereas*, there is a need to look into this important concern of diving accidents to evaluate safety, search, rescue and recovery protocols in the sport of scuba diving in order to address deficiencies and provide tourists and dive enthusiasts a safe environment to pursue their sport;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**, to direct the Committee on Tourism to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the implementation of scuba diving safety rules and regulations.

*Adopted,*

  
**ROZZANO RUFINO B. BIAZON**  
*Representative*  
Lone District, Muntinlupa City