

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila



18TH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 385

Introduced by Representative **CARLITO S. MARQUEZ**

RESOLUTION

URGING THE PROPER COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, TO INVESTIGATE ON THE TRAGEDY MET BY THE DRAGON BOAT TEAM DURING THEIR TRAINING IN BORACAY, MALAY, AKLAN

WHEREAS, tragedy struck a dragon boat team training for an international competition when their boat capsized off the island of Boracay in Sitio Tulubhan on September 25, 2019, killing seven, three of them women;

WHEREAS, Vince Natividad, Rachel Montoya, Rose Antonete Supranes, Johan Tan and Maricel Tan were identified as the fatalities in the boat accident while one more is being identified from the boat tragedy and 14 individuals survived;

WHEREAS, the survivors are Von Navarosa, the team's founder; Mark Baccay, Jaylord Violanda, Edwin Paradai, Marc Sabado, Kenneth Bandalan, Jao Buenaventura, Robel Licerio, Kathleen Sabado, Julia Kurbantizova, Maggie Xie, Yhen Aytona, Lanie Ordas, and Janice Lumbo;

WHEREAS, initial reports said that the dragon boat team planned to return to the beach front after their training when a giant wave hit them;

WHEREAS, the Dragon Force team has been training for an international boat racing competition;

WHEREAS, a report released by the Office of the Municipal Mayor of Malay said all the victims were not wearing life vests at the time of the accident and that one of the victims does not know how to swim;

WHEREAS, Capt. Armand Balilo, Coast Guard spokesperson, confirmed that no one from the team wore life vest, clarifying that dragon boat training is not covered by the agency's regulation on wearing life vests;

WHEREAS, Balilo also said dragon boat teams are not required to secure permit when conducting a training;

WHEREAS, the victims are members of the 21-man Boracay Dragon Force training for the 2019 Kaohsiung City Cup international dragon boat championship set Nov. 8-10, 2019 in Taiwan;

WHEREAS, according to the team manager whose identity was not provided, the victims assembled at 6:30 a.m. in Bulabog beach area in Barangay Balabalag and the paddlers boarded the boat at 7:15 a.m. and the sea was calm, according to one of the survivors, however, after the reef, rough waves gradually filled the boat with water, some 200-300 meters off the Lingganay Resort, Tulubhan in Barangay Manocmanoc, Malay, Aklan;

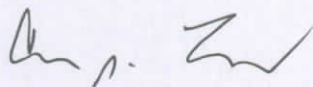
WHEREAS, the boat sank but the paddlers managed to hold on to the boat and Strong waves and current made the boat roll over, displacing the victims;

WHEREAS, meanwhile, the Philippine Dragon Boat Federation (PDBF) reiterated its advocacy and priority to safety and it encourages the use of personal floatation devices during training and require wearing the same in local regattas to make sure that we avoid incidents that lead to unnecessary loss of life or sustenance of injury;

WHEREAS, there is a need also to educate the member clubs proper safety protocols in case of capsizing or sinking of boats;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT THE PROPER COMMITTEE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, TO INVESTIGATE ON THE TRAGEDY MET BY THE DRAGON BOAT TEAM DURING THEIR TRAINING IN BORACAY, MALAY, AKLAN.

Adopted.



ENGR. CARLITO "Lito" S. MARQUEZ