Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City  

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Second Regular Session  

House Res. No. 1707  

Introduced by HON. ROZZANO RUFINO B. BIAZON  

RESOLUTION  

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO STRONGLY PROTEST AND CONDEMN THE HARASSMENT OF FILIPINOS BY ELEMENTS FROM THE COAST GUARD, NAVY AND MILITIA OF THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA IN THE WEST PHILIPPINE SEA  

WHEREAS, it was reported that on April 8, 2021, Filipinos on board a civilian vessel were denied passage to, and aggressively chased off, Ayungin Shoal by a China Coast Guard ship with bow number 5101;  

WHEREAS, after about an hour trailing the Philippine civilian vessel headed toward mainland Palawan, the China Coast Guard (CCG) ship turned back but was replaced by two smaller vessels that appeared to be Houbei Type 22 missile attack fast craft of the People’s Liberation Army Navy (PLAN);  

WHEREAS, Global Positioning System (GPS) readings indicated that the Philippine civilian vessel was about 90 nautical miles from mainland Palawan as the two missile attack fast crafts were giving chase;  

WHEREAS, this action by the CCG and PLAN is devoid of any legal basis and deserves the appropriate legal action through diplomatic channels.  

WHEREAS, under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), a country has exclusive right to exploit or conserve any resources found within the water, on the sea floor, or under the sea floor’s subsoil of its EEZ (Article 56, UNCLOS);  

WHEREAS, the July 12, 2016 Arbitral Award of the Permanent Court of Arbitration that invalidated China's nine-dash line has also affirmed with finality that the Philippines has a full EEZ in the WPS;  

WHEREAS, the April 8 incident is part of continuing actions of the People’s Republic of China to harass Filipinos in waters where they have the right to pass and exploit under international law;  

WHEREAS, sometime in the last week of March 2021, it was reported that a flotilla of ships believed to be Chinese Maritime Militia were spotted in Julian Felipe Reef in violation of international laws and despite condemnation by the international community and continuing protests filed by the Philippine Government, a number of ships remain there while others have dispersed to other areas of the West Philippine Sea;
WHEREAS, this manifest bullying by the Peoples Republic of China through the CCG and PLAN as well as the lingering presence of what are believed to be Chinese Maritime Militia is the height of Chinese arrogance and hypocrisy following their persistent call on others to practice respect and promote peace in those waters. The use of grey hulls in denying Filipinos’ passage in the West Philippine Sea within the country’s Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) is conduct that deserves condemnation by the Filipinos;

WHEREAS, this august chamber composed of members who are direct representatives of the people, is the most appropriate body to express the sentiments of our countrymen and protest the continuing violation of the rights of the Republic of the Philippines and the Filipino people under international law by the People’s Republic of China;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT, RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED to express the sense of the House of Representatives in strongly protesting and condemning the harassment of Filipinos by elements from the Coast Guard, Navy and militia of the People’s Republic of China in the West Philippine Sea;

RESOLVED FURTHER, that, the Department of Foreign Affairs is called to once again file a diplomatic protest in this respect as well as consider issuing a summons to the Chinese representative to the Philippines to explain the continuing harassment of Filipinos by armed Chinese Navy vessels in the West Philippine Sea whose waters Filipinos have the right to ply, as well as call on the Department of National Defense to pursue the conduct of maritime patrols in the Philippine Exclusive Economic Zone assert and protect Philippine rights in those waters.

Adopted,

ROZZANO RUBINO B. BIAZON
Representative
Lone District, Muntinlupa City