HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE LIFE OF THE CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF THE PHILIPPINES (COCCAAP) TO CONTINUE ITS MANDATE AS PROVIDED FOR IN SECTION 91 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9497, CREATING THE CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF THE PHILIPPINES (CAAP).

WHEREAS, on 44 March 2008, Republic Act No. 9497 creating the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP), thereby, abolishing the Air Transportation Office (ATO) was enacted into law;

WHEREAS, the law addresses the civil aviation problems of the Philippines, especially the downgrading of its status from Category 1 to Category 2 by the Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) and the blacklisting of the European Union, mainly due to the Significant Safety Concerns (SSC) raised by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO);

WHEREAS, the Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (CAAP) is mandated to have jurisdiction over the restructuring of the civil aviation system, the promotion, development and regulation of the technical, operational, safety and aviation security functions under the civil aviation authority;

WHEREAS, under Section 91 of Republic Act No. 9497, the Congressional Oversight Committee on Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (COCCAAP) was constituted in accordance with the provisions of the said Act. The Committee shall be composed of the Chairman of the
Senate Committee on Public Services and Chairman of the House Committee on Transportation and four (4) additional members from each House to be designated by the Senate President and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, respectively;

WHEREAS, the Congressional Oversight Committee on Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (COCCAAP) shall, among others, in aid of legislation: monitor and ensure the proper implementation of Republic Act No. 9497; review the collection performance of the Authority; review the proper implementation of the programs of the Authority and the use of its collected fund;

WHEREAS, the Congressional Oversight Committee on Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (COCCAAP) is empowered to require the Authority to submit all pertinent information including, but not limited to, its collection performance data and its annual, audited financial statements certified by the Commission on Audit;

WHEREAS, under the abovementioned law, the Congressional Oversight Committee shall be in existence for a period of only five (5) years, beginning on 4 March 2008, and thereafter, its oversight functions shall be exercised by the Senate Committee on Public Services and the House Committee on Transportation acting separately;

WHEREAS, House Joint Resolution No. 35 was filed during the Fifteenth Congress already extending the existence of COCCAAP for five (5) years, from March 2013 to March 2018;

WHEREAS, in order to maintain the momentum of work initiated by the Congressional Oversight Committee on Civil Aviation Authority of the Philippines (COCCAAP) and avoid an unwanted interruption which may result in loss of data and incongruity in the results of the studies/investigation already commenced, the said committee must continue to function in accordance with its mandate set forth in Section 91 of Republic Act No. 9497, as there is an essential need for COCCAAP to effectively accomplish its mandated tasks and lay down the foundation and structure for the future of our civil aviation;

WHEREAS, COCCAAP will work hand in hand with CAAP to address the downgrading of the Philippine's aviation status from Category 1 to Category 2 by the Federal Aviation Authority (FAA) and the blacklisting of the European Union, as well as solve the Significant Safety Concerns (SSC) raised by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO);
WHEREAS, considering the very dynamic, broad and ever-changing nature of the civil aviation industry, the members of the Oversight Committee contended that the term of five (5) years is not sufficient enough to fulfill its mandate and objectives effusively, not to mention the economic impact of the aviation industry to the Philippine economy;

RESOLVED, by the Senate and the House of Representatives concurring, that the LIFE OF THE CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON CIVIL AVIATION AUTHORITY OF THE PHILIPPINES (COCCAAP) shall BE EXTENDED FOR ANOTHER FIVE (5) YEARS BEGINNING SEPTEMBER 2019 TO SEPTEMBER 2024 continue to function in accordance with its mandate set forth in Section 91 of Republic Act No. 9497;

RESOLVED, finally by the Senate and the House of Representatives, the committee shall submit periodic reports of its findings and make recommendations on actions to be taken by the CAAP, and that in order to carry out the objectives of this Resolution, Congress shall make the appropriate budgetary appropriation.

Approved,

REP. EDGAR MARY SARMIENTO