Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Resolution No. 272

Introduced by HON. ROZZANO RUFINO B. BIAZON

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