Republic of the Philippines

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 642

Introduced by
Rep. RAYMOND DEMOCRITO C. MENDOZA
TUCP Partylist

HOUSE RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON OVERSEAS WORKERS' AFFAIRS, COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT, AND THE COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CONTINGENCY PLAN FOR THE 1.2 MILLION OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKERS IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND IMPLICATIONS ON THE PHILIPPINE ECONOMY OF THE ESCALATING IRAN-USA CONFLICT

WHEREAS, there is a clear and present danger that the escalating conflict between Iran and the United States of America (USA) will turn into a region-wide conflagration following the airstrikes in Iraq and exchange of retaliatory actions;

WHEREAS, both Iran and the USA have a set of allies, Iran with paramilitary Shiite militias in Yemen, Qatar, Oman, Syria, Lebanon and Iraq while the USA has allies in the region such as the gulf countries like Saudi Arabia, Egypt and Israel;

WHEREAS, there are approximately 1.26 million Filipinos working in the Middle East who are potentially at risk from any retaliatory action of either Iran or the USA;

WHEREAS, the presence of 1.26 million Filipino workers in the Middle East necessitates a contingency plan from the concerned government agencies to ensure that there are options for relocation or repatriation with assurance of livelihood support and subsidies;

WHEREAS, the contingency plan must be comprehensive and should have a local component given the implication of the conflict on petroleum prices which at this point have risen by 4% per barrel not to mention the foregone dollar remittances;

WHEREAS, His Excellency President Rodrigo Duterte has announced that he is considering calling the Congress into a Special Session to ensure a comprehensive Government response to the evolving Iran-USA crisis and for the purpose of earmarking a stand-by fund to be authorized by Congress;

THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that the House Committee on Overseas Workers Affairs, the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, and the House Committee on Labor and Employment are hereby directed to undertake an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the matter of what contingency plans are in place for the 1.26 million Filipino workers from the Middle East and for the economic implications of the Iran-USA conflict.

Adopted,

[Signature]

REP. RAYMOND DEMOCRITO C. MENDOZA
TUCP Partylist