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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Second Regular Session  

House Resolution No. 1405  


RESOLUTION  
COMMENDING THE CONTRIBUTIONS AND EFFORTS OF HIS EXCELLENCY HAN DONG-MAN AS AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA TO THE PHILIPPINES IN FOSTERING PHILIPPINES-KOREA BILATERAL RELATIONS  

WHEREAS, His Excellency, Han Dong-man was designated as the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea (ROK) to the Republic of the Philippines (PH) on January 17, 2018;¹ 

WHEREAS, as an expert in Policy Planning, Trade, and Public Relations, Ambassador Han joined the diplomatic corps in 1985 and has served in countries such as Algeria, United Kingdom, Australia, and the United States of America;² 

WHEREAS, it is fitting to recognize the contributions of outgoing ROK Ambassador to the Philippines, H.E. Han Dong-man, who performed exemplary services in fostering not only stronger PH-ROK bilateral relations but also deeper people-to-people engagement between the Philippines and South Korea; 

WHEREAS, through His Excellency’s untiring efforts, exchanges between the Philippines and South Korea increased even further as evidenced by the signing of agreements by the two countries in areas of tourism, fisheries, education, and social security during the official courtesy visit of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte to President Moon Jae-in in Seoul in November 2019;³  

WHEREAS, during Ambassador Han’s tenure, there is an increase in trade and investment between the Philippines and South Korea. In 2019, South Korea was the fifth largest trading partner of the Philippines and also its third highest import source and sixth highest export destination. Moreover, the PH-ROK Free Trade Agreement, which is seen as a significant step forward to a stronger economic partnership between the two countries, is already in the final stages of negotiation and is nearing completion;⁴ 

¹ https://dfa.gov.ph/office-of-protocol/foreign-embassies#KOREA  
WHEREAS, His Excellency likewise oversaw increased South Korean support to the Philippines such as its USD1 billion commitment in the form of concessional loans from the Korean Economic Development Cooperation Fund (EDCF) to finance multiple infrastructure projects in the country;¹

WHEREAS, through the efforts of Ambassador Han, the Philippines has become a top destination for Korean tourists. Korean tourists visiting the country has ballooned from 1.6 million visitors in 2017 to almost 2.2 million by the end of 2019;²

WHEREAS, Ambassador Han also supervised ROK projects such as the turnover of numerous naval vessels as part of its contributions to PH maritime security, the humanitarian efforts for those affected by various natural disasters such as the Mayon Volcano eruption, Typhoon Ompong (Mangkhut), Mindanao earthquake, and Taal Volcano eruption, and assistance in tackling the COVID-19 pandemic;³

WHEREAS, the warm and gentle, yet energetic personality of His Excellency masterfully reflects the characteristics of modern-day South Korea, a vibrant democracy with a dynamic economy, and a society that perfectly blends traditional values with contemporary pop culture;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, To commend the contributions and efforts of His Excellency Han Dong-man as Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Republic of Korea to the Philippines in fostering Philippines-Korea bilateral relations.

Adopted,

LORD ALLAN JAY Q. VELASCO
Lone District, Marinduque

JOSEPH STEPHEN "CARAPS" S. PADUANO
ABANG-LINGKOD Party List

ANN K. HOFER
2nd District, Zamboanga Sibugay

ROSANNA "RIA" V. VERGARA
3rd District, Nueva Ecija

FLORIDA "RIDA" P. ROBES
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1st District, Leyte

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3rd District, Pangasinan

DIVINA GRACE C. YU
1st District, Zamboanga del Sur

LORNA C. SILVERIO
3rd District, Bulacan

³https://www.philstar.com/opinion/2020/03/05/1998257/korea-and-philippines-are-old-friends-71-years-friendship