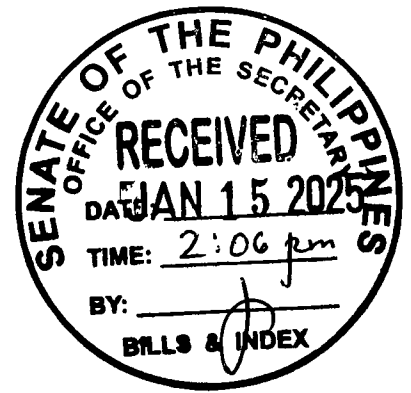


NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*Third Regular Session* )



**SENATE**  
**P.S. RES. No. 1277**

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Introduced by Senators Francis Tolentino and Robinhood Padilla

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**RESOLUTION**  
**COMMENDING THE COURAGE, VIGILANCE, AND NATIONALISM OF LOCAL FISHERFOLK OF MASBATE FOR RECOVERING AND TURNING-OVER TO PROPER AUTHORITIES THE UNMANNED UNDERWATER VEHICLE THAT INTRUDED THE MARITIME ZONES OF THE PHILIPPINES**

1           Whereas, it is a declared policy of the State to recognize nationalism of all  
2 members of the society regardless of social, cultural, or economic background;

3           Whereas, on the early morning of 30 December 2024, three local fishermen,  
4 namely Mr. Jojo Villanueva Cantela, 39; Mr. Rodnie Magno Valenzuela, 31; and Mr.  
5 Jeric Terana Arojado, 17, discovered an unmanned underwater vehicle (UUV) or sea  
6 drone near the shores of Brgy. Inarawan, San Pascual, in the province of Masbate;

7           Whereas, immediately after recovering the drone, the fishermen brought the  
8 unidentified submersible drone to barangay officials, who later surrendered the device  
9 to the Philippine National Police;

10           Whereas, despite the inherent danger of retrieving an unfamiliar object in open  
11 waters, the three (3) fishermen deemed it paramount to take the submersible drone  
12 to surrender it to proper authorities;

13           Whereas, said underwater drone, marked "HY-119", has an approximate 3.5  
14 meters in length, 24 centimeters in diameter, and weighs around 94 kilograms;

15           Whereas, the recovered unidentified submerged object or submersible drone  
16 was placed under the custody of the Explosive Ordnance Division/ K9 Regional  
17 Explosive and Canine Unit 5 (EOD/K9 RECU5) at Camp Simeon A. Ola, Legazpi, and

1 was subsequently surrendered to Philippine Navy for forensic analysis and proper  
2 disposition;

3 Whereas, the Senate, as an institution aligns with the defense and security  
4 sector that the recovery of the drone highlights the significance of cooperation with  
5 local fisherfolk and maritime stakeholder;

6 Whereas, the discovery and retrieval of the said drone in Philippine waters have  
7 called the attention of our defense sector, as the same may have implications in  
8 relation to laws such as the Philippine Maritime Zones Act and Philippine Archipelagic  
9 Sea Lanes Act, and our country's territorial integrity and national security;

10 Whereas, it is incumbent upon us to commend vigilance of members of our  
11 communities in reporting suspicious activities as vital part of the government's efforts  
12 to protect national security and sovereignty;


13 Whereas, it is imperative to highlight the value of collaborating with our local  
14 fisherfolks and other maritime stakeholders to complement our naval assets in terms  
15 of keeping an eye on our maritime zones; Now therefore, be it

16 RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to commend the courage, vigilance,  
17 and nationalism of the three (3) local fisherfolk, namely Mr. Jojo Villanueva Cantela,  
18 Mr. Rodnie Magno Valenzuela, and Mr. Jeric Terana Arojado, for recovering and  
19 turning over to the proper authorities the unmanned underwater vehicle that intruded  
20 the maritime zones of the Philippines.

Adopted,



**FRANCIS 'TOL' N. TOLENTINO**  
*Senator*



**ROBINHOOD C. PADILLA**  
*Senator*