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SENATE

P. S. Res. No. 480

RECEIVED BY:

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR VILLAR

**RESOLUTION**

**URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEES ON ENVIRONMENT AND NATURAL RESOURCES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATUS OF THE BAKUD REEF IN KIAMBA, SARANGANI AFTER A STRANDED CARGO SHIP DAMAGED A PORTION OF A DECLARED PROTECTED SEASCAPE, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF REINFORCING THE LEGAL FRAMEWORK THAT REGULATES OUR COUNTRY'S MARINE WEALTH**

*Whereas*, Article XII, Section 2 of the 1997 Constitution provides that, "The State shall protect the nation's marine wealth in its archipelagic waters, territorial sea, and exclusive economic zone, and reserve its use and enjoyment exclusively to Filipino citizens.";

*Whereas*, Sarangani Bay is one of the few areas in the Philippines under Republic Act 7586 or the National Integrated Protected Areas Systems (NIPAS) Act of 1992;

*Whereas*, Bakud Reef is within the 215,950- hectare Sarangani Bay Protected Seascape, a declared protected area by virtue of Presidential Proclamation No. 756, which is the joint responsibility of the local government and the Protected Area Management Bureau of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR);

*Whereas*, the five-hectare Bakud Reef, located off the coast of Kiamba town was damaged when a Panama-registered cargo ship, MV Double Prosperity ran aground last May 8;

*Whereas*, MV Double Prosperity, which was bound for India from Australia, was loaded with almost 66,000 metric tons of coal, destroying an estimated 3,000 sq.m of coral formation;

*Whereas*, the DENR has estimated the damage to the Bakud Reef at Php 42 million:

*Whereas*, the value of marine services lost as a consequence of the accident, which could have benefitted millions of Sarangani residents, including its fisherfolk and allied enterprises cannot be overlooked;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to urge the Senate Committees on Environment and Natural Resources and Local Government to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the status of the Bakud Reef in Kiamba, Sarangani after a stranded cargo ship damaged a portion of a declared protected seascape, with the end in view of reinforcing the legal framework that regulates our country's marine wealth.

Adopted,

**MANNY VILLAR**  
Senator