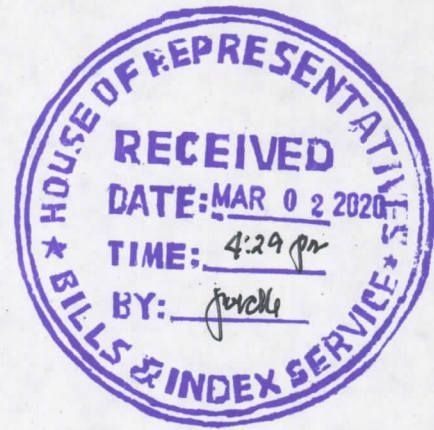


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Resolution No. 749



Introduced by the Honorable Precious Hipolito Castelo

A RESOLUTION

URGING AIRLINE COMPANIES AND TRAVEL AGENCIES TO ALLOW PASSENGERS WHO BOOKED FLIGHTS TO COUNTRIES WITH CASES OF CORONAVIRUS DISEASE (COVID-19) TO REBOOK OR REFUND THEIR SCHEDULED FLIGHTS FOR FREE

WHEREAS, as of writing, Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) has killed over 3,000 people worldwide, the vast majority in mainland China;

WHEREAS, there have been more than 88,000 global cases, with infections on every continent except Antarctica¹;

WHEREAS, in the Philippines, the number of confirmed cases is considerably low at three (3) compared to our neighboring countries in Asia;

WHEREAS, the World Health Organization (WHO) has cited countries, including the Philippines, that show that the spread of COVID-19 can be contained after these countries recorded no new positive cases in the past two weeks²;

WHEREAS, we can never be complacent as there has been a sudden spike of confirmed cases in other countries specifically in South Korea, Japan, Iran and Italy;

WHEREAS, if passengers who have scheduled flights in countries with confirmed cases of COVID-19 are allowed to rebook or refund their flights, we may be able to effectively and continuously prevent the spread of this deadly disease in our country;

WHEREAS, however, flight cancellation and re-booking usually incur additional costs and cancellation fees and penalties;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives to urge airline companies and travel agencies to allow passengers who booked flights to countries with COVID-19 to rebook or refund their scheduled flights for free.

ADOPTED,

PRECIOUS HIPOLITO CASTELO

¹ <https://edition.cnn.com/asia/live-news/coronavirus-outbreak-03-02-20-intl-hnk/index.html>

² <https://www.rappler.com/nation/252920-philippines-among-countries-cited-who-no-new-covid19-cases>