

1 Republic of the Philippines
2 Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
3 **BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY**
4 Cotabato City

5
6 **BTA PARLIAMENT**
7 *Second Regular Session*

8
9 Parliament Resolution No. 251

Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao
Parliament
BILLS AND INDEX DIVISION

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26 **RESOLUTION**

27 **CALLING ON THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND COMMUNICATION**
28 **(MOTC) TO REQUIRE SHIPPING COMPANIES PLYING ROUTES OF ZAMBOANGA**
29 **CITY TO JOLO, SULU, AND VICE VERSA TO PROVIDE AN OPTION FOR**
30 **PASSENGERS TO PURCHASE THEIR TICKETS ONLINE TO ADDRESS THE**
31 **PROBLEM OF THE PROLIFERATION OF “FIXERS” IN THE PURCHASE OF**
32 **PASSENGER BOAT TICKETS**

33
34 **WHEREAS**, Section 3, Article III of Republic Act 11054, otherwise known as the “Bangsamoro
35 Organic Law,” states that the Bangsamoro Government shall, among others, enhance economic
36 prosperity and preserve the comfort and convenience of its inhabitants;

37
38 **WHEREAS**, Section 2, Chapter 1, Title XV of the Bangsamoro Administrative Code provides
39 that the Ministry of Transportation and Communication (MOTC) shall be the primary policy,
40 planning, programming, coordinating, implementing, regulating, and administrative entity of the
41 Bangsamoro Government in the promotion, development, and regulation of dependable and
42 coordinated networks of transportation and communications system as well as fast, safe, efficient
43 and reliable transportation and communications services;

44
45 **WHEREAS**, sea travel is vital and essential for the Bangsamoro people residing in BASULTA –
46 Basilan, Sulu, Tawi-Tawi;

47
48 **WHEREAS**, in recent weeks, one of the worsening problems that sea vessel passengers
49 encounter is regarding the difficulty of purchasing tickets and the proliferation of “fixers” for sea
50 trips from Zamboanga to Jolo, Sulu, and vice versa;

51
52 **WHEREAS**, in the past weeks, hundreds of passengers have needed to line up as early as 2 am
53 in Jolo port and even in the Zamboanga ticketing outlets just to be able to get a chance to
54 purchase tickets;

55

1 **WHEREAS**, even the regional employees of BARMM are experiencing these difficulties where
2 tickets are already unavailable three (3) days before the scheduled trip, and travelers need to wait
3 for several days to be able to go to Jolo or return to Zamboanga;

4
5 **WHEREAS**, this large discrepancy in the demand for travel to and from Sulu compared to the
6 available transport has brought in ticket syndicates that take advantage of the situation and make
7 passengers pay as much as 1.5 times the original cost of the ticket;

8
9 **WHEREAS**, this situation affects government service delivery as well as the emerging tourism
10 industry in Sulu, which is frequented by local tourists from Western Mindanao;

11
12 **WHEREAS**, according to a Zamboanga City local news article, a total of six (6) fixers were
13 apprehended by the Zamboanga City Police Station 11 after they were caught selling passenger
14 tickets to Jolo at double the price to travelers going to the Island province of Sulu last April 19,
15 2023;¹

16
17 **WHEREAS**, passengers intending to buy tickets at the ticketing outlets several days prior are
18 often told that there are no more available tickets and that their prospective trip is already fully
19 booked, only to be offered overpriced tickets by fixers.

20
21 **WHEREAS**, the online purchasing of tickets will bypass the “fixers” that are hoarding tickets
22 just to be resold at 1.5 to 2 times the original price;

23
24 **WHEREAS**, an option to purchase tickets online would provide a more transparent, convenient,
25 and fair method of procuring tickets while also rendering the modus operandi of “fixers”
26 ineffective;

27
28 **WHEREAS**, so much time, money, resources, and opportunities are lost and wasted with the
29 needless lines by hundreds of passengers wanting to travel only to be taken advantage of by
30 unscrupulous “fixers”;

31
32 **WHEREAS**, the LGUs of Zamboanga City and Sulu have been trying to address this issue, but
33 the solution seems to be too elusive, which may need the use of innovative ways such as
34 technology and the online platform of the internet;

35
36
37 **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** by the
38 Bangsamoro Parliament, **TO CALL ON THE MINISTRY OF TRANSPORTATION AND**
39 **COMMUNICATION (MOTC) TO REQUIRE SHIPPING COMPANIES PLYING ROUTES**
40 **OF ZAMBOANGA CITY TO JOLO, SULU, AND VICE VERSA TO PROVIDE AN OPTION**
41 **FOR PASSENGERS TO PURCHASE THEIR TICKETS ONLINE TO ADDRESS THE**
42 **PROBLEM OF THE PROLIFERATION OF “FIXERS” IN THE PURCHASE OF**
43 **PASSENGER BOAT TICKETS.**

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46 **ADOPTED,**

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¹ <https://www.facebook.com/profile/100064860451629/search/?q=ticket%20sulu>

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