RESOLUTION CALLING AND URGING THE PRESIDENT TO AWARD THE MEDAL OF VALOR TO FIRST LIEUTENANT RONILO M. VENDER FOR VALIANTLY LEADING THE COMBAT TEAM THAT NEUTRALIZED THE MAUTE TERRORISTS, ISNILON HAPILON AND OMAR MAUTE

WHEREAS, the Philippine 1987 Constitution declares the Armed Forces of the Philippines as the protector of the people and the State, with the goal of securing the sovereignty of the State and the integrity of the national territory;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Medal of Valor is the highest military honor awarded for acts of valor above and beyond the call of duty, heroism and gallantry, as stated in Republic Act 9049;

WHEREAS, on October 17, 2017, Combat Team Bravo of Task Group Bakal under their platoon leader, First Lieutenant Ronilo M. Vender, clashed with a group of the Islamic State-inspired extremists called the Maute Group which has caused tremendous damage to property and hundreds of deaths in the so-called Marawi Crisis. During the said encounter, the two top leaders of the Maute terrorists, Isnilon Hapilon and Omar Maute, were killed, and thirteen (13) hostages were rescued thereafter;

WHEREAS, the death of the two terrorists led to the liberation of the City of Marawi from the Maute terrorists and end of the five-month long battle in the area;

WHEREAS, this House Resolution is re-filed from the 17th Congress, originally submitted by Hon. Danilo E. Suarez, Minority Leader and then Representative of the Third District of Quezon;
THEREFORE, be it resolved as it is hereby resolved by the House of Representatives, that the awarding of the Medal of Valor to First Lieutenant Ronilo M. Vender for his valiant acts of leadership in the neutralization of the two leaders of the Maute terrorists, Isnilon Hapilon and Omar Maute, which led to the liberation of Marawi City for the said terrorist group, be highly recommended to His Excellency Rodrigo Roa Duterte.

Adopted,

ALETA C. SUAREZ
Representative
Third District, Quezon