

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

166
HOUSE RESOLUTION No. _____

Introduced by
ACT Teachers Party-List Rep. FRANCE L. CASTRO,
BAYAN MUNA Party-List Rep. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE,
Rep. FERDINAND GAITE and Rep. EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT,
GABRIELA Women's Party Rep. ARLENE D. BROSAS,
and KABATAAN Party-List Rep. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO

RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
TO CONDEMN THE SPATE OF EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLINGS IN THE ISLAND
OF NEGROS, AND CALL ON THE AUTHORITIES TO IMMEDIATELY STOP
THE KILLINGS AND BRING THE PERPETRATORS TO JUSTICE

WHEREAS, on 25 July 2019, siblings Arthur Cordevilla Bayawa, 55, and Ardale Cordevilla Bayawa, 49, were shot to death by about 10 unidentified armed men;

WHEREAS, both victims were employees of the Department of Education. Mr. Bayawa was the principal of Guihulngan National High School-Poblacion while Ms. Bayawa was the Chief of the Curriculum Implementation Division in the Schools Division Office of Guihulngan City;

WHEREAS, these killings were committed brazenly and with impunity, death squad style, in the middle of the night (at around 12:55 a.m.) by armed goons who forced their way inside the house of the Bayawas, destroying the padlock of the main door, shooting the Bayawas multiple times, then fleeing in a prepared vehicle;

WHEREAS, these murders that victimized the Bayawas occurred in the midst of the spate of extrajudicial killings in the Island of Negros, which to date have claimed the lives of at least 83 persons;

WHEREAS, the murders of the Bayawas were in fact immediately followed by another murder in the same barangay, this time that of the barangay captain, less than an hour later. Armed men killed three others, among them a father and child who were also attacked in their own home, wounding the mother and their other child;

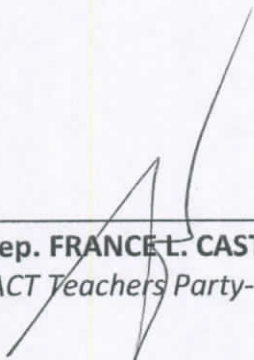
WHEREAS, these killings also occurred under the regime of Memorandum Order 32, series of 2018, entitled *Reinforcing the Guidelines for the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine National Police in the Implementation of Measures to Suppress and Prevent Lawless Violence*, which ordered the immediate deployment of additional forces of the AFP and PNP in Samar, Negros Oriental, Negros Occidental, and Bicol allegedly against “lawless violence”;

WHEREAS, most of the victims who were felled under Memorandum Order 32 were members of or affiliated with progressive people's organizations and therefore labeled by police or military as “rebel supporters” or rebels themselves. Some of the killings were set up or planted with evidence alleging the victims to be killed by or involved with the New People's Army. However, all the victims, such as the Bayawas who just work in the public school system, were civilians and non-combatants;

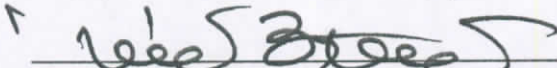
WHEREAS, the House of Representatives must ensure that steps are taken to immediately put a stop to these killings; prevent the murder of other innocents like the Bayawas; and hold to account those responsible;

NOW, THEREFORE, LET IT BE RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives express its sense to condemn the spate of extrajudicial killings in the Island of Negros, call on the authorities to immediately stop the killings, and bring the perpetrators to justice.

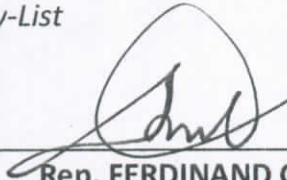
Adopted,



Rep. **FRANCE L. CASTRO**
ACT Teachers Party-List



Rep. **CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE**
BAYAN MUNA Party-List



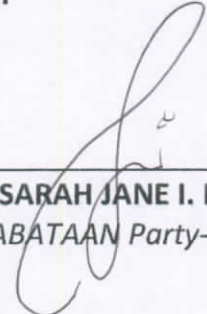
Rep. **FERDINAND GAITE**
BAYAN MUNA Party-List



Rep. **EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT**
BAYAN MUNA Party-List



Rep. **ARLENE D. BROSAS**
GABRIELA Women's Party



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