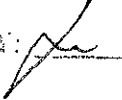


11 MAY 16 A9 31

SENATE
P.S. Res. No. 472

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced By Senator Loren Legarda

RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE TO HONOR THE LIFE OF FOREST GUARD ELPIDIO "JOJO" MALINAO AND HIS CONTRIBUTION IN PROTECTING THE MT. MAKILING FOREST RESERVE AND TO CONDEMN HIS VIOLENT DEATH

WHEREAS, Elpidio "Jojo" Malinao, 49 years old and a forest guard of Makiling Centre for Mountain Ecosystems of the College of Forestry & Natural Resources University of the Philippines Los Baños was fatally shot by a lone gunman at Bay, Laguna last May 9, Monday at 2:15 p.m.;

WHEREAS, Jojo just came from a court hearing in the Municipal Court of Bay, Laguna where he was a primary witness and apprehending officer of forest law offenders within the Makiling Forest Reserve. As he entered a store along the national highway in Bay, an assailant followed Jojo and shot him to death in the head with a .45 caliber gun;

WHEREAS, it was a swift, merciless and needless death of a man who's guilty of nothing but the strong passion for his job to protect the Makiling Forest Reserve at all cost;

WHEREAS, for almost 20 years, Jojo dedicated the best years of his life as a forest officer tasked to defend the integrity of the Makiling Forests. Despite many good reasons to be disheartened and half-hearted in the discharge of his duties, Jojo displayed exceptional courage and remarkable integrity in enforcing forest laws and regulations governing the management and protection of the Makiling Forests;

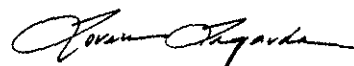
WHEREAS, over the years, Jojo constantly received threats to harm him yet he did not waver in his commitment to protect the mountain. As a result he is responsible for apprehending the most number of forest law offenders in Makiling Forests which is one reason why the Makiling Forests remain lush and green to this day;

WHEREAS, Jojo deserves to be honored for his commitment to give nothing but his very best in his job which he embraced with unquestionable and undeterred dedication;

WHEREAS, Jojo's death is a tragic addition to the lengthening list of murdered warriors for the environment. His death demonstrates the need to recognize those whose lives are on the line for their routine act for the environment;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to express the sense of the Senate to honor the life of forest guard Elpidio "Jojo" Malinao and his contribution in protecting the Mt. Makiling Forest Reserve and to condemn his violent death.

Approved,



LOREN LEGARDA
Senator