

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

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SENATE
P. S. R. No. **50**

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF CONDOLENCE OF THE SENATE ON THE DEMISE OF KALINGA RTC JUDGE MILNAR LIMAWEN AND DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE SERIES OF DEATHS OF MEMBERS OF THE JUDICIARY IN ORDER TO PROVIDE LEGISLATION THAT WILL PROMOTE THEIR SAFETY AND PROTECTION

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article III, Section 1 provides that: "No person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law, nor shall any person be denied the equal protection of the laws";

WHEREAS, last 8 August 2004 a prominent judge was gunned down by two assailants in the capital town of Tabuk, Kalinga while he was in a store in Barangay Magsaysay in the same province;

WHEREAS, according to an article on the *Manila Times* published 11 August 2004, Judge Limawen was declared dead on arrival at the Almora General Hospital;

WHEREAS, Lammawin was the second judge to be killed in the Cordillera Administrative Region in the past two years;

WHEREAS, Judge Limawen is the ninth judge killed in the country during the last five years;

WHEREAS, last June 10, 2004 Batangas Executive Judge Voltaire Rosales was on his way to Makati when he was shot at close range;

WHEREAS, among the other fatalities include Binangonan, Rizal RTC Executive Judge Paterno Tiamson; Cabungao, Apayao MTC Judge Pinera Biden; Tayug, Pangasinan RTC Presiding Judge Oscar Gaby Uson to name a few;

WHEREAS, these series of deaths are alarming and should be dealt with seriously;

WHEREAS, for our judges to perform their duties properly it is necessary that they be given the necessary protection and assurance of safety;

WHEREFORE, be it resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate to direct the Senate Committee on Justice to conduct inquiry in aid of legislation into the reported series of deaths of the members of the judiciary.

Approved,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO