

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

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SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 181

INTRODUCED BY HONORABLE MAR ROXAS

**A RESOLUTION URGING THE COMMITTEE ON
PUBLIC INFORMATION AND MASS MEDIA TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE FINDINGS OF AN INTERNATIONAL
MEDIA ORGANIZATION THAT THE PHILIPPINES WAS THE SECOND MOST
DANGEROUS PLACE FOR JOURNALISTS IN THE YEAR 2004**

WHEREAS, Section 4, Article III of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides for freedom of speech, expression, and of the press;

WHEREAS, the media has always played a vital role in our history and has been instrumental in ensuring good governance and the rule of law in our country's state of affairs;

WHEREAS, the National Union of Journalists in the Philippines and the Center for Media Freedom and Responsibility revealed that since 1986, sixty-one (61) journalists have been killed allegedly due to their profession and that the cases arising from these killings have not yet been resolved;


WHEREAS, according to the International Federation of Journalists (IFJ), the world's largest organization of journalists representing around 500,000 members around the world, there is a widespread culture of violence which is allegedly being tolerated and condoned by Philippine government officials;

WHEREAS, also according to the IFJ, there is strong evidence that public officials are behind the deaths of thirteen (13) journalists in the year 2004 alone, making the Philippines second only to Iraq, which was alleged to have the highest number of journalists killed in the same year;

WHEREAS, the Philippines is now allegedly the second most dangerous place for journalists around the world based on these findings of the IFJ;

WHEREAS, there is a need to look into the killings of Filipino journalists to ensure the free and unhampered practice of their profession and their enjoyment of freedom of speech, expression and of the press in the country;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to urge the Committee on Public Information and Mass Media to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, into the findings of an international media organization that the Philippines was the second most dangerous place for journalists in the year 2004;


MAR Roxas
Senator