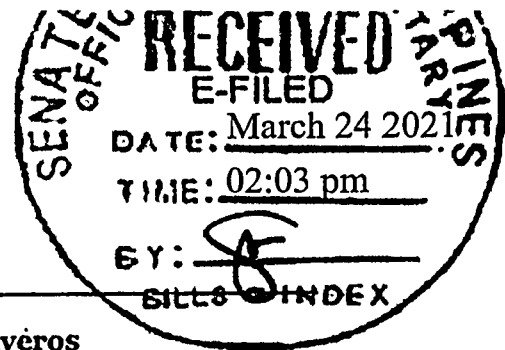


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

SENATE

P.S.R. No. 693



Introduced by Senator Risa Hontiveros

RESOLUTION

URGING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION INTO THE KILLING OF ACTIVISTS IN THE CALABARZON REGION DURING THE ROUTINE SERVICE OF SEARCH WARRANTS ON MARCH 7, 2021, DESCRIBED IN THE MEDIA AS "BLOODY SUNDAY," BY MEMBERS OF THE POLICE AND MILITARY

WHEREAS, on March 7, 2021, elements of the Philippine National Police (PNP) and Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) killed at least nine (9) left-wing activists in bloody pre-dawn raids across the Cavite, Laguna, Batangas, Rizal, and Quezon Administrative Region (Calabarzon), ostensibly during the routine service of search warrants for loose firearms and illegal explosives;

WHEREAS, among those killed was Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) Cavite Secretary-General Emmanuel "Manny" Asuncion, who was with his wife Lizelle and another associate in the couple's home in Dasmariñas, Cavite, when policemen allegedly barged in and ordered Asuncion's wife and associate to step outside, before shots were fired and Asuncion's dead body was dragged down the stairs of his own house;

WHEREAS, in Batangas, the dead bodies of Chai Lemita-Evangelista and Ariel Evangelista of the farmers' group Ugnayan ng Mamamayan Laban sa Pagwawasak ng Kalikasan at Kalupaan (UMALPAS KA), were found in a funeral parlor, after police raided their seaside cottage in Barangay Calayo, Nasugbu, and apparently killed the couple in front of their 10-year old son;

WHEREAS, in Montalban, Rizal, Mark Lee Coros Bacasno, Melvin Dasigao, Abner Damas Mendoza Esto, and Edward Damas Mendoza Esto, members of the urban poor organization San Isidro Kasiglahan, Kapatiran at Damayan para sa Kabuhayan, Katarungan at Kapayapaan (SIKKAD K-3) were killed during simultaneous raids conducted by the police;

WHEREAS, in Tanay, Rizal, Dumagat Sierra Madre members Puroy Berhemedo Dela Cruz and Randy Berhemedo Dela Cruz were shot dead in separate raids on their homes;

WHEREAS, Puroy Dela Cruz's wife Minda alleges that members of the police arrived between 3:00 a.m. and 4:00 a.m., ordered them to surrender and, without giving them the opportunity to do so, shot Puroy four times, causing his death;

WHEREAS, Randy Dela Cruz's family was allegedly roused from their sleep when raiders kicked their door down and ordered Randy's wife Violy and their children out of the house, shooting Randy immediately thereafter;

WHEREAS, during the proceedings of the Committee on Appointments, AFP Chief-of-Staff Lt. Gen. Cirilito Sobejana claimed that the participation of military personnel in these raids was limited to securing the perimeter and providing backup while police officers served the actual search warrants; and

WHEREAS, the violence of these so-called "Bloody Sunday" raids has led to calls for a Congressional inquiry into the intentional killing of non-combatant activists and organizers by members of the police and military during the otherwise routine service of search warrants, a gross violation of the fundamental rights guaranteed by the Philippine Constitution.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED TO URGING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION INTO THE KILLING OF ACTIVISTS IN THE CALABARZON REGION DURING THE ROUTINE SERVICE OF SEARCH WARRANTS ON MARCH 7, 2021, DESCRIBED IN THE MEDIA AS "BLOODY SUNDAY," BY MEMBERS OF THE POLICE AND MILITARY.

Adopted.

Risa Hontiveros
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Senator