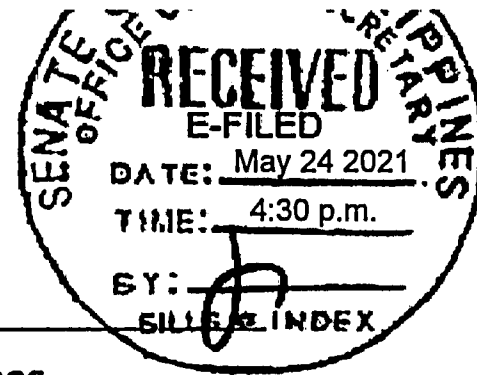


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*Second Regular Session* )

SENATE

P.S.R. No. 730



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**INTRODUCED BY SENATOR RISA HONTIVEROS**

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**RESOLUTION  
EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE TO COMMEMORATE THE FOURTH  
ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARAWI SIEGE AND EXTEND SOLIDARITY WITH THE  
PEOPLE OF MARAWI, PARTICULARLY THE INTERNALLY-DISPLACED AND  
VULNERABLE**

**WHEREAS**, on May 23, 2017, a firefight broke out between government forces and armed militants allied with the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), when armed militants tried to take over key civilian institutions and burned a Catholic church, two schools and a jail;

**WHEREAS**, the Marawi siege – stretching on for several months until the deaths of Omar Maute and Isnilon Hapilon in October of 2017 – resulted in the demise of 168 of our brave government soldiers, whose sacrifice and heroism we continue to remember and honor;

**WHEREAS**, the siege has unfortunately resulted in the brutal demise and displacement of thousands of innocent civilians, and has impacted the lives of the peoples of Mindanao who continue to suffer from the lasting effects of decades of armed conflict and structural poverty;

**WHEREAS**, the aftermath of the siege also continues to pose grave implications for the complete realization of the Bangsamoro peace process and for just and lasting peace in Mindanao;

**WHEREAS**, Meranao leaders and various civil society groups have been urging the Philippine government to accelerate its efforts to rebuild the City of Marawi and prioritize the immediate, safe and dignified return of the displaced communities back to their places of origin;

**WHEREAS**, as of last year, a total of 25,355 families (126,775 individuals) are still reportedly displaced in various parts of Lanao province and Marawi City in the aftermath of the 2017 siege, according to the Mindanao Displacement Dashboard of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees;

**WHEREAS**, four years after the tragic Marawi incident, promises of comprehensive rehabilitation of the city including compensation for the damages of livelihood and properties of the affected families and the immediate return of the displaced back to Marawi remain unfulfilled;

**WHEREAS**, despite the availability of funds for rehabilitation and reconstruction, thousands of Marawi internally displaced persons (IDPs) and "bakwits" remain in temporary shelter communities while others are forced to live elsewhere in tightly packed communities and squalid conditions -- increasing their vulnerability during the continuing onslaught of the COVID-19 pandemic and depriving them of much needed opportunities for economic survival;

**WHEREAS**, Meranao leaders and various civil society formations have expressed frustration over the seeming inability of the national government to listen to the voices of the IDPs and the "bakwits", contributing not only to the failure to provide responsive strategies, but also to the century-old narrative of marginalization, discrimination, exclusion and social deprivation in Mindanao;

**WHEREAS**, four years after the bloody siege, it is imperative to listen to the Meranao leaders, civil society, the broad peace movement, the peoples of Mindanao in order to attain the full realization of the Bangsamoro peace process, institutionalize relevant peace and social justice measures to end the decades of conflict in the region, and most importantly, address the historical injustices committed against the Bangsamoro and all other inhabitants of Mindanao;

**NOW THEREFORE RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED TO EXPRESS THE SENSE OF THE SENATE TO COMMEMORATE THE FOURTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE MARAWI SIEGE AND EXTEND SOLIDARITY WITH THE PEOPLE OF MARAWI, PARTICULARLY THE INTERNALLY-DISPLACED AND VULNERABLE.**

Adopted,

  
**RISA HONTIVEROS**  
*Senator*