NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session
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SENATE

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## Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

## **RESOLUTION**

EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCES OF THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES ON THE UNTIMELY AND HORRIFIC DEATH OF FILIPINO LAWYER AND FORMER SENATE LEGISLATIVE STAFF, ATTY. JOHN ALBERT "JAL" LAYLO AFTER A RANDOM SHOOTING IN PHILADELPHIA, UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, AND CONDEMNING IN THE STRONGEST SENSE THE SENSELESS SLAYING OF A FELLOW FILIPINO

WHEREAS, the history of the Philippine Senate would show that it has always commiserated with the families and loved ones left behind by Filipinos whose invaluable contribution to the country demands that they be given tribute to;

WHEREAS, Atty. John Albert "Jal" Laylo was a Filipino lawyer whose professional career spanned across different administrations. He finished his degree in Political Science at the University of the Philippines Diliman. He began his career in the Senate back in 2010 when her served as part of the team of then Senator Manuel "Mar" Roxas;<sup>1</sup>

WHEREAS, with the heart for public service, he went on to work as legal and political consultant for the city of government of Malabon from 2015-2016.<sup>2</sup> He went back to the Senate in 2016 when he became one of the lawyers of the Legislative

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> CNN. (20 June 2022) *Visiting Filipino Lawyer shot in the US dies.* Retrieved 28 June 2022, from https://www.cnnphilippines.com/news/2022/6/20/Jal-Laylo-lawyer-Philadelphia-shooting.htmlatty <sup>2</sup> *Ibid.* 

Team of former Senator Leila M. de Lima until he flew to Budapest, Hungary to obtain his masters degree on International Business Law at the Central European University;<sup>3</sup>

WHEREAS, on 19 June 2022, Atty. Laylo, who was vacationing in the United States of America with his mother, was shot in the head while riding an Uber car on the way to the airport;<sup>4</sup>

WHEREAS, on 22 June 2022, Philippine Consul General in New York Elmer Cato said that the fatal shooting of Atty. Laylo "could be a case of mistaken identity." He cited sources from the Philadelphia police who had earlier said that the gunmen might have fired at the Uber vehicle that Atty. Laylo and his mother rode, because they thought that it was the car they were chasing;<sup>5</sup>

WHEREAS, Atty. Laylo was merely thirty-five (35) years old when his life was so unreasonably cut short by an incident that is as random as it is horrific. With his illustrious educational and professional background, his death is a waste of what could have been a brilliant and passionate public servant;

WHEREAS, the Senate whose hallowed halls once witnessed the dedication and hard work of Atty. Laylo now expresses its overwhelming sorrow in his passing. His contributions to this body will forever be etched in time;

WHEREAS, it is only fitting that the Senate pays its tribute to Atty. Laylo who, as a former member of the respective legislative teams of two (2) former Senators, has touched and changed the lives of Filipinos for whose benefit and welfare legislative measures are crafted and passed;

WHEREAS, the Senate likewise condemns in the strongest sense this bloody incident which came at a price too high – the life of a young Filipino lawyer whose contributions to society would leave anyone to surmise how much more he could have done, had he been spared from such a random brutal act;

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Lariosa, S. (22 June 2022) Rest in peace, Atty. Jal: Visiting Filipino lawyer tragically shot in Philadelphia. Retrieved 28 June 2022, from https://alum.up.edu.ph/2022/06/22/rest-in-peace-atty-jal-visiting-filipino-lawyer-tragically-shot-in-philadelphia/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> CBS News. (20 June 2022) *Philippine government attorney shot and killed while taking Uber to airport with his mother in Philadelphia*. Retrieved 28 June 2022, from https://www.cbsnews.com/news/john-albert-laylo-philippine-government-attorney-killed-uber-philadelphia/

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> CNN. (21 June 2022) PH Consul: Random shooting in US 'could be a case of mistaken identity'

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, to express profound sympathy and sincere condolences of the Senate of the Philippines on the untimely and horrific death of Filipino lawyer and former Senate legislative staff, Atty. John Albert "Jal" Laylo after a random shooting in Philadelphia, United States of America, and condemning in the strongest sense the senseless slaying of a fellow Filipino.

Adopted,

RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.