

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

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## SENATE

P. S. Res. No.

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## **Introduced by Senator Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada**

## RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION AND IN THE EXERCISE OF THE SENATE'S OVERSIGHT POWERS, ON THE ATTEMPTED ESCAPE OF THREE DETAINEES AND THE SUBSEQUENT HOSTAGE-TAKING INCIDENT INSIDE THE CUSTODIAL CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE IN CAMP CRAME, QUEZON CITY, WITH THE END VIEW OF ENSURING THE **ENFORCEMENT OF ADEQUATE SECURITY AND SAFETY MEASURES INSIDE** THE PNP DETENTION FACILITIES AND THE PREVENTION OF ANY UNTOWARD AND VIOLENT INCIDENTS WITHIN THEIR PREMISES

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 6975, or An Act Establishing the Philippine National Policy under a Reorganized Department of the Interior and Local Government, and for Other Purposes, as amended, provides that the Philippine National Police (PNP) shall enforce all laws and ordinances relative to the protection of lives and properties, maintain peace and order and take all necessary steps to ensure public safety, investigate and prevent crimes, effect the arrest of criminal offenders, bring offenders to justice and assist in their prosecution, among other functions;

WHEREAS, on the morning of October 9, 2022, three (3) pesons under police custody (PUPCs), namely Arnel Cabintoy, Feliciano Sulayao Jr., and Idang Susukan, from the Abu Sayyaf Group and Dawlah Islamiya terrorist group who were facing multiple charges of murder, kidnapping, arson and illegal firearms possession, attempted to escape from the maximum security compound of the PNP Custodial

Center in Camp Crame, Quezon City;

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WHEREAS, the detainees broke out of their cell after Police Corporal Roger Agustin brought them their breakfast past six o'clock in the morning, when one of them stabbed the police officer repeatedly with a fork;

WHEREAS, members of the Special Action Force (SAF) readily responded to the incident, and Patrolman Lorenz Matias was able to neutralize Cabintoy and Susukan, after they refused to yield to the authorities;

WHEREAS, Sulayao scuttled until he reached former Senator Leila de Lima's detention cell and took her hostage. Sulayao tied and blindfolded the Senator and pointed a sharp object (either an icepick or screwdriver) at her chest;

WHEREAS, in an affidavit, de Lima recalled Sulayao relaying complaints to the former legislator about how the detainees were maltreated inside the facility: "Marami kaming reklamo, sa ginagawa sa amin dito para kaming hayop itrato at ang mga pagkain ay may baboy."

WHEREAS, Police Colonel Mark Pespes negotiated with Sulayao, and the police officer later found an opportunity to rescue the lawmaker and neutralize the armed hostage taker;

WHEREAS, the PNP leadership already ordered an in-depth investigation on the incident, and imposed stricter security measures inside the complex, including prohibition on the use of metal utensils, implementation of a "buddy system" for police officers delivering food to detainees, deployment of additional security personnel, and stringent inspection of visitors' belongings. Lieutenant Colonel Patrick Ramillano, facility commander, has also been relieved from his post as standard operating procedure to give way to the investigation;

WHEREAS, the ill-fated incident which left three detainees dead, one severely injured police officer in critical condition, and former Senator de Lima wounded and traumatized, brought to the fore security lapses on the part of the PNP;

WHEREAS, the incident which occurred within the PNP National Headquarters, while ultimately resulted in the successful rescue of Sen. De Lima from her attacker and demonstrated the swift and decisive action of the police officers during a crisis situation, nonetheless reflects poorly on the police organization's capacity to perform their mandate of preventing crimes, enforcing laws, maintaining public order, and ensuring public safety;

WHEREAS, the police organization should inspire confidence through the institutionalization of strict security protocols in PNP detention facilities, adequate training and capacity-building of its officers and personnel, and humane treatment of persons under police custody, being respectful of their religious beliefs and cultural practices;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate, to direct the appropriate Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation and in the exercise of the Senate's oversight powers, on the attempted escape of three detainees and the subsequent hostage-taking incident inside the Custodial Center of the Philippine National Police in Camp Crame, Quezon City, with the end view of ensuring the enforcement of adequate security and safety measures inside the PNP detention facilities and the prevention of any untoward and violent incidents within their premises.

JINGGOY

Adopted,