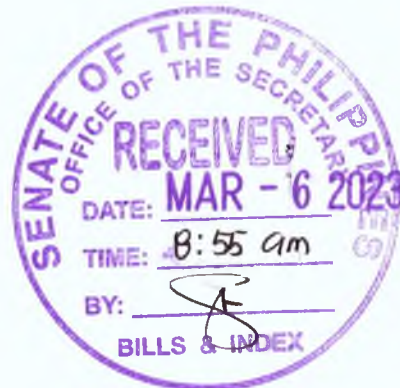


**NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)**



SENATE

P. S. RES. NO. 517

Introduced by Senators Juan Miguel F. Zubiri, Joel Villanueva, Loren Legarda, Joseph Victor G. Ejercito, Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay, Grace Poe, Raffy T. Tulfo, Sonny Angara, Ronald "Bato" Dela Rosa, Ramon Bong Revilla, Jr., Francis "Tol" N. Tolentino, Win Gatchalian, Jinggoy Ejercito Estrada, Mark A. Villar, And Christopher Lawrence "Bong" T. Go

RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE STRONGLY CONDEMNING THE RECENT SPATE OF KILLINGS OF, AND ATTACKS AGAINST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS AND PRIVATE PERSONS, AND URGING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE AND OTHER LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES TO UNDERTAKE THE NECESSARY STEPS IN ENSURING THE SAFETY OF ALL

WHEREAS, in broad daylight, Governor Roel Degamo of Negros Oriental was shot dead on March 4, 2023, about 9:30a.m., by men wearing pixelized uniforms and armed with long firearms at his home in Pamplona, Negros Oriental, where the governor was attending to beneficiaries of the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program. During the ambush, eight (8) individuals were not spared and were also killed;

WHEREAS, according to the Philippine National Police (PNP), the suspects escaped using three (3) vehicles identified as a Mitsubishi Pajero with plate number NQZ 735, a green Isuzu pickup with plate number GRY 162, and a black Mitsubishi Montero with plate number YAP 163;

WHEREAS, in a span of fifteen (15) days from February 17 to March 4, 2023, at least three (3) more local executives were injured or killed in ambushes, most of which were carried out outside of the victims' jurisdiction where PNP or AFP presence is perceived to be weak by the assailants;

WHEREAS, Lanao del Sur Governor Mamintal Adiong Jr. was shot at and wounded in Maguing, Lanao del Sur last February 17, 2023, which resulted to the death of four (4) of his security personnel, including three (3) police officers. At present,

the PNP has formally filed charges against three (3) suspects at the Marawi City Regional Trial Court;

WHEREAS, on February 19, 2023, Aparri, Cagayan Vice Mayor Rommel Alameda and five (5) other persons travelling with him were killed in a highway ambush in Bagabag, Nueva Vizcaya at around 8:45a.m.;

WHEREAS, Datu Montawal, Maguindanao Mayor Ohto Montawal was injured in an ambush along Roxas Boulevard in Pasay City last February 22, 2023, sustaining a gunshot wound on his hip and left arm;

WHEREAS, in addition to the foregoing, former local executives were not spared and were attacked in 2022;

WHEREAS, former Dolores, Quezon Vice Mayor Danilo Amat was ambushed while he was driving in San Pablo City, Laguna on July 22, 2022;

WHEREAS, former Lamitan City, Basilan Mayor Rose Furigay and two (2) others were killed on July 24, 2022, at the Ateneo de Manila University before the conduct of a graduation ceremony;

WHEREAS, former Lobo, Batangas Vice Mayor Romeo Sulit was attacked and killed while he was delivering a speech at a birthday party on August 12, 2022;

WHEREAS, former Dipaculao, Aurora Vice Mayor Narciso Amansec and two (2) others were ambushed while traveling last October 3, 2022;

WHEREAS, former Calbiga, Samar Mayor Miguel Abaigar Jr. was riding his bicycle when he was shot in the back last October 7, 2022;

WHEREAS, the Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines (ULAP) has condemned the recent attacks against elected local government officials, stating that “[i]t is deeply concerning and reprehensible that an individual or a group would attempt to harm an elected representative of the people who has a duty to serve and protect the community” and that “such an act goes against democracy, rule of law, and basic human decency”. Furthermore, it strongly condemns the killing of Governor Degamo, and called for all perpetrators to be held accountable at the soonest possible time;

WHEREAS, in a Press Briefing last January 9, 2023, the PNP released a statement that 105,568 crime incidents were recorded from July 2022 to January 7, 2023, with 57,103 in Luzon, 21,421 in Visayas, and 27,044 incidents in Mindanao, and identified theft, rape, and robbery as the most prevalent crimes;

WHEREAS, in its 2023 Social Weather Stations (SWS) Survey Review released last February 7, 2023, a survey conducted from December 10 to 14, 2022 with 1,200 adult respondents showed that 60% are “afraid that robbers might break into their houses” and 50% are “afraid to walk the streets at night because it is not safe”;

WHEREAS, injustice and violence do not have a place in any civilized society, and no cause justifies brutalities against the lives of all persons;

WHEREAS, the Senate of the Philippines, in the strongest sense, urges the Philippine National Police and other law enforcement agencies to exert all efforts to bring the perpetrators to justice not only for the sake of all victims and their families, but also to ensure that the rule of law is upheld at all times for an orderly and peaceful society;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, TO EXPRESS THE SENSE OF THE SENATE strongly condemning the recent spate of killings and attacks against government officials and private persons, and urging the Philippine National Police and other law enforcement agencies to undertake the necessary steps in ensuring the safety of all.

Adopted,

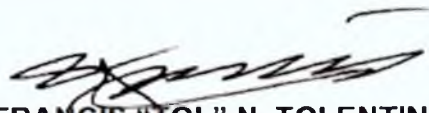

JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI


LOREN LEGARDA


MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY



RAFFY T. TULFO

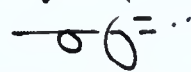

RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA


FRANCIS "TOL" N. TOLENTINO


JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA


**CHRISTOPHER LAWRENCE
"BONG" T. GO**


JOEL VILLANUEVA


JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO


GRACE POE


SONNY ANGARA


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.


WIN GATCHALIAN


MARK A. VILLAR