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)
Second Regular Session
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SENATE PS.R.No: 445 RECEIVED BY:

## Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

## RESOLUTION DIRECTING AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE REPORTED KILLINGS OF ACTIVISTS IN CENTRAL LUZON

WHEREAS, the *Philippine Star*, on 19 January 2006, reported that Perla Rodriguez, a 60-year old local leader of the farmers' group Alyansang Maglalautang Capampangan (AMC), was shot dead in her home in Barangay Divisoria, Pampanga last Tuesday, 17 January 2006;

WHEREAS, Rodriquez is the third militant leader slain this year in Central Luzon, last year, militant groups blamed the killings of 49 activists across the across on the military;

WHEREAS, Ismael Lampa, the chairman of Barangay Pandakaki, of the same town, was fatally shot near his home earlier that day;

WHEREAS, Senior Superintendent Dindo Espina, provincial police director, said a suspect has already been tagged in the killing of Lampa; he further claimed that the killer seemed to have been hired by politicians;

WHEREAS, Roman Polintan, chairman of the militant Bagong Alyansang Makabayan (Bayan) in Central Luzon, said Rodriquez was an active leader of AMC, which is allied with Bayan, in this town; Espina said Rodriquez's killing seems to be "insurgency-related";

WHEREAS, last month, Victorina Gomez, 63, chairwoman of Barangay Parian, Pampanga and her councilman Romeo Atienza, 45, were shot dead after attending an army-sponsored meeting at the municipal gymnasium here;

WHEREAS, the human rights group Karapatan-Central Luzon (Karapatan-CL) earlier reported that the body of Armando Leabres, 42, a Bayan Muna coordinator in Nueva Ecija, was found in San Ildefonso, Bulacan last 11 January 2006, a day after he was abducted from his home in Barangay San Jose in Peñaranda, Nueva Ecija;

WHEREAS, last 7 January 2005, Nilo Villalon, another militant leader in San Miguel, Bulacan, was also killed;

WHEREAS, as Bayan Muna coordinator, Leabres was active in organizing workers of cooperatives into unions;

WHEREAS, while the Armed Forces' Northern Luzon Command (Nolcom) blamed the New People's Army for the killings, militant groups insisted that military men under Maj. Gen. Jovito Palparan, commander of the Army's 7th Infantry Division, were the culprits,

WHEREFORE, be it resolved that the proper Senate committee shall conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation on the reported killings of militant leaders in Central Luzon.

Adopted,

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