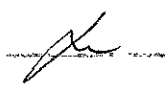


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS )  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*First Regular Session* )

8 MAY 21 1976

RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE

P.S. RES. NO. 413

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*Introduced by Sen. M. A. Madrigal*

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RESOLUTION

HONOURING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF ANAKPAWIS  
REPRESENTATIVE CRISPIN "KA BEL" BELTRAN AND  
EXTENDING SYMPATHY AND CONDOLENCES TO HIS  
BEREAVED FAMILY AND THE ANAKPAWIS PARTYLIST

**WHEREAS**, in recognition of his populist sentiments, the late ANAKPAWIS Representative Crispin B. Beltran was fondly called "Ka Bel" by his friends and followers in the labour movement;

**WHEREAS**, Ka Bel, by the age of twenty, began his life-long crusade for the advancement of workers' rights;

**WHEREAS**, Ka Bel served as president of the Yellow Taxi Drivers' Union and the Amalgamated Taxi Drivers Federation from 1955-1963, and also served as Vice-administrator of the Confederation of Labor Unions of the Philippines from 1963-1972. Ka Bel subsequently became vice-president of the Philippine Alliance of Nationalist Organisations (PANALO), which later became the Alliance of Nationalist Genuine Labor Organizations (ANGLO), an affiliate of the Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU), whose establishment on 1 May 1980 signaled the labour movement's all-out defiance of the Marcos dictatorship;

**WHEREAS**, during Martial Law, Ka Bel was arrested and suffered detention but later on escaped and went into hiding in Central Luzon where, as legend says, he was given shelter by members of the New People's Army. Ka Bel took the *nom de guerre* "Ka Anto" in honour of Crisanto Evangelista, one of the fathers of the Philippine Labour Movement. Instead of an armalite, "Ka Anto" carried a portable typewriter to continue his crusade against the Marcos tyranny;

**WHEREAS**, Ka Bel was among the many political prisoners given amnesty by the government of President Corazon Aquino after the restoration of democracy in 1986;

**WHEREAS**, in the years after Martial Law, Ka Bel resolved to continue his crusade to uphold workers' rights and welfare in calling for commensurate wage increases and decent working conditions;

**WHEREAS**, on 23 February 2006, through Proclamation 1017, Ka Bel was again arrested this time by the tyrannical Arroyo government and falsely charged of rebellion. Yet, true to his convictions, even in hospital he continued to fight the repressive Arroyo administration whose actions continue to be frighteningly reminiscent of Martial Law;

**WHEREAS**, Ka Bel was the embodiment of a true labor leader, patriot and fighter for democracy. Ka Bel was passionate about his cause, consistent in his actions and non-compromising in his principles. In Ka Bel's life story is embodied the nation's history of labour's struggle against oppression, abuse, discrimination and indifference. When he became partylist representative for Anakpawis, he continued to live a frugal and simple life in order to set an example to his followers;

**WHEREAS**, in his later years, neither illness nor "hospital arrest" could stop Ka Bel from fighting the Arroyo tyranny and continuing his crusade for the betterment of national labour conditions;

**WHEREAS**, Ka Bel's death on 20 May 2008 is a great loss not only to the progressive labour movement but to the nation at large. Despite Ka Bel's death, he leaves a lasting legacy of progressive labour leadership for generations to come;

**WHEREAS**, Ka Bel is seen as a modern day hero by his followers and all those whose lives he touched. He shall be fittingly remembered in the annals of Philippine history in a way best expressed by the poem of Jose Ma. Sison:

*"Whatever is the manner of death,  
There is a common denominator.  
A hero serves the people  
To his very last breath."*

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED** to extend the Senate's sympathy and condolences to the family of Crispin B. Beltran and to the Anakpawis Partylist; and express the Senate's collective sense for the historic contributions made by Ka Bel over his long and distinguished career as a freedom-fighter and pioneer in the progressive labour movement.

Adopted,

  
M. A. MADRIGAL