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FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Third Regular Session

9 DEC -9 P3:00

SENATE

P. S. Res. 1523

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Introduced by Sen. Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

RESOLUTION

ENJOINING EVERY SENATOR TO DONATE AT LEAST PHP 100,000.00 FROM THE PRIORITY DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE FUND (PDAF) TO AID AND HELP THE VICTIMS OF THE "MAGUINDANAO MASSACRE"

WHEREAS, in the morning of November 23, 2009, a convoy of six (6) vehicles from Buluan, Maguindanao with around 60 persons composed of family members and supporters of Buluan Vice Mayor Esmail "Toto" Mangudadatu, as well as, media personalities were flaaged down in Brgy. Malisay, Ampatuan, Maguindanao, and taken by about one hundred (100) armed men;

WHEREAS, official reports indicate that the passengers of the convoy were killed and their bodies were found in "mass graves" in Brgy. Saniag, Ampatuan bearing marks of dreadful torture and extreme torment;

WHEREAS, reports from the military indicate that twenty two (22) of the victims were found lying on the ground or inside their vehicles, while thirty five (35) bodies were found in three (3) newly covered shallow graves, a total of fifty seven (57) fatalities, thirty six (36) men and twenty one (21) women, of whom two (2) are pregnant. Reports further indicate that several of the women were sexually abused, mutilated and dishonored:

WHEREAS, this brutal and senseless murder and carnage of innocent civilians cannot be anything but a means to stifle or deny participation in an otherwise democratic electoral process;

WHEREAS, such an act of cruelty, brutality and violence is a crime against the very idea of humanity, transcending geographic boundaries and further debasing the reputation of the country in the international community;

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need on the part of government to provide a holistic and comprehensive aid and assistance to the relatives of the victims of the massacre considering the trauma and violence inflicted on their loved ones and the burden of recovering and rebuilding their lives from such horrible and dreadful experience.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY

RESOLVED by the Senate of the Philippines to enjoin every senator to donate at least Php 100,000.00 from the Priority Development Assistance Fund (PDAF) to aid and help the victims of the "Maguindanao Massacre"

Adopted,

MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID
Senator