

SENATE

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P.S. Res. No. 518

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senators Pimentel, Angara, Binay, Ejercito, Escudero,
Gatchalian, Gordon, Honasan, Lacson, Legarda, Pacquiao, Poe, Recto, Sotto,
Villanueva, Villar and Zubiri

RESOLUTION

**CONDEMNING IN THE STRONGEST SENSE THE EXTRAJUDICIAL KILLINGS
AND CALLING ON THE GOVERNMENT TO EXERT AND EXHAUST ALL EFFORTS
TO STOP AND RESOLVE THESE EXTRAJUDICIAL AND ALL OTHER
UNRESOLVED KILLINGS**

WHEREAS, Article III, Sections 1 and 2 of the 1987 Constitution state that "No person shall be deprived of life, liberty, or property without due process of law" and affirms the "right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects against unreasonable searches and seizures of whatever nature";

WHEREAS, recent cases of extrajudicial killings (EJKs) following the deaths of Kian Loyd Delos Santos, Carl Arnaiz, and Reynaldo De Guzman alarmed the nation and sparked public outrage as our uniformed personnel claimed that said victims were either drug couriers or robbers;

WHEREAS, forensic evidence from the Public Attorney's Office reveal, however, that the abovementioned victims were all murdered and that all three were defenselessly killed, contrary to statements of policemen that said victims either resisted arrest or initiated the shooting, prompting the policemen to retaliate, leading to their demise;

WHEREAS, Jefferson Bunuan, a criminology scholar of Kaibigan Foundation, was killed along with two other men on 20 July 2016 in a drug operation by policemen in Sampaloc, Manila where the police claimed the victims fired the shots first;

WHEREAS, recently, Leo Sarmiento was killed in San Jose City, Nueva Ecija after allegedly firing at police officers during an operation;

WHEREAS, on 29 March 2017, Raymart Siapo was abducted and killed by a group of masked men who asked him to run and when he could not, due to a bilateral club foot, was shot and killed;

WHEREAS, Roman Manaois was gunned down in Dagupan City by unidentified men as he was about to buy a midnight meal on 28 July 2016;

WHEREAS, this is a complete disregard of human rights of Delos Santos, Arnaiz, De Guzman, Bunuan, Sarmiento, Siapo, Manaois and all others killed due to extrajudicial and vigilante killings;

WHEREAS, according to the Philippine Information Agency, as of 16 June 2017 there is a total of 12,833 reported homicide cases, 2,098 of which are drug-related, 2,535 are non-drug related, and 8,200 are still under investigation¹;

WHEREAS, there is a need for our police force and law enforcement agencies to strictly observe the rule of law and the rules of engagement in enforcing arrests;

WHEREAS, a segment of the population perceives that this manner of police arrests is justified which could embolden our police and other law enforcement agencies, however, these arrests should be conducted within the bounds of the Constitution and respect for human rights and rule of law;

WHEREAS, the same segment of the population may be supportive of these police arrests due to their exasperation and loss of confidence in our criminal justice system and the slow wheels of justice;

WHEREAS, while the Philippine National Police's efforts in cleansing its ranks of abusive and corrupt policemen is commendable, it is strongly recommended that the PNP and other law enforcement agencies implement the law and conduct these operations in accordance with the Constitution and existing laws;

WHEREAS, there are also many cases of unresolved killings perpetrated by vigilantes, common criminals and civilians;

WHEREAS, the Senate has been working tirelessly against extrajudicial killings from day one and the appropriate Senate Committees have already submitted their recommendations to immediately resolve these crimes;

WHEREAS, these EJKs and unresolved killings have no place in a civilized and democratic society like the Philippines, thus we vehemently condemn EJKs and all other unresolved killings and challenge the concerned government agencies to step up their drive to resolve these rising killings and criminalities against our citizens regardless of age, sex, creed, religion or political beliefs;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate to condemn in the strongest sense the extrajudicial killings and call on the government to exert and exhaust all efforts to stop and resolve these extrajudicial and all other unresolved killings.

Adopted,


Sen. Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel III


Sen. Sonny M. Angara


Sen. Maria Lourdes Nancy Binay

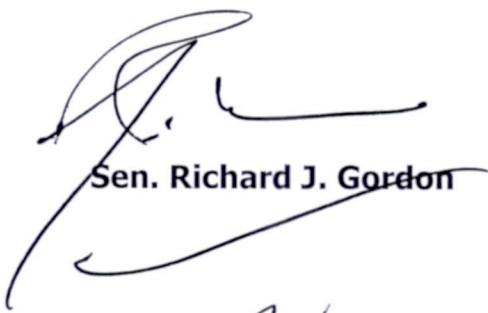

Sen Joseph Victor G. Ejercito


Sen. Francis "Chiz" G. Escudero

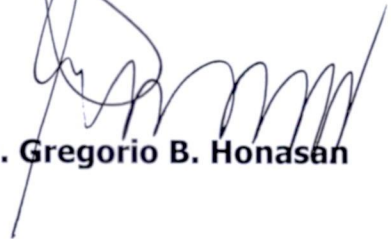
¹ <http://pia.gov.ph/realnumbers/socialcards?p=1>



Sen. Sherwin Gatchalian



Sen. Richard J. Gordon



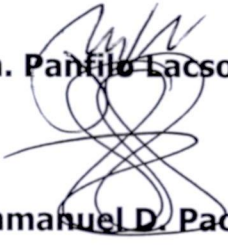
Sen. Gregorio B. Honasan



Sen. Panfilo Lacson



Sen. Loren B. Legarda



Sen. Emmanuel D. Pacquiao



Sen. Grace L. Poe



Sen. Ralph G. Recto

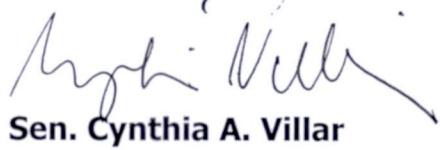


Sen. Vicente C. Sotto

ON SICK LEAVE



Sen. Joel Villanueva



Sen. Cynthia A. Villar



Sen. Juan Miguel F. Zubiri