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SENATE  
Joint Resolution No. 14

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Introduced by Senator Ana Theresia "Risa" Hontiveros-Baraquel

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**JOINT RESOLUTION**  
**EXTENDING THE VALIDITY AND AVAILABILITY OF THE FUND FOR THE MARCOS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATION VICTIMS WITH LAND BANK OF THE PHILIPPINES AND AUTHORIZING THE COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS (CHR) TO ADMINISTER THE EFFECTIVE DISTRIBUTION OF THE FUNDS TO QUALIFIED VICTIMS OR THEIR HEIRS OR REPRESENTATIVES UNTIL DECEMBER 2019, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. (R.A. No.) 10368 AND REPUBLIC ACT NO. (R.A. No.) 10766**

1       **WHEREAS**, consistent with R.A. No. 10368, it is the policy of the State to recognize the  
2 heroism and sacrifices of all Filipinos who were victims of summary execution, torture, enforced  
3 or involuntary disappearance and other gross human rights violations committed during the  
4 regime of former President Ferdinand E. Marcos covering the period from September 21, 1972 to  
5 February 25, 1986 and restore the victims' honor and dignity;

6  
7       **WHEREAS**, the State acknowledges its moral and legal obligation to recognize and/or  
8 provide reparation to said victims and/or their families for the deaths, injuries, sufferings,  
9 deprivations and damages they suffered under the Marcos regime;

10  
11       **WHEREAS**, R.A. No. 10368 created the Human Rights Victims Claims Board (HRVCB) to  
12 receive, evaluate, process and investigate applications and approve claims for the reparation of  
13 human rights violations subject to the provisions of the said Act. The amount of ten billion pesos  
14 (P10,000,000,000.00) was allotted for the reparation of the human rights victims. The same Act  
15 mandates the HRVCB to complete its work within two (2) years from the effectivity of the IRR  
16 promulgated by it and after such period, shall become *functus officio*;

17  
18       **WHEREAS**, on April 19, 2016, Republic Act No. 10766 entitled "An Act Extending the Life of  
19 the Human Rights Victims Claims Board, Amending for this purpose Section 29 of Republic Act No.  
20 10368 Entitled, "An Act Providing For Reparation and Recognition Of Victims of Human Rights  
21 Violations During the Marcos Regime, Documentation of said Violations, Appropriating Funds  
22 Therefor and for Other Purposes" was signed by President Benigno Aquino III. RA 10766 amended  
23 the sunset clause such that the HRVCB shall become *functus officio* by May 12, 2018;

24  
25       **WHEREAS**, as of May 11, 2018, the HRVCB was able to approve and duly recognize 11,103  
26 legitimate claimants out of more than 75,000 applicants. However, the HRVCB was only able to  
27 completely resolve the 6,737 appeals on May 6, 2018, or six (6) days before the law's sunset. The  
28 checks issued by the HRVCB for the human rights victims have a validity of only three (3) months;

1           **WHEREAS**, the HRVCB implemented two modes of payments for the approved  
2 claimants (1) through the Automated Teller Machines of the Land Bank of the Philippines,  
3 and (2) through the issuance of checks. Some 3,600 out of the 11,103 approved claimants  
4 will be provided cash through the ATM. The rest will be issued checks, which have a validity  
5 of three months;  
6

7           **WHEREAS**, as of June 28, 2018, the HRVCB account with Land Bank of the  
8 Philippines reported a balance of P792.628 million. The funds shall be maintained until  
9 August 11, 2018, after which the balance will be reverted to the Bureau of Treasury;  
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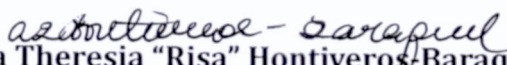
11           **WHEREAS**, although the CHR and HRVCB created a transition team to assist the  
12 claimants in the remaining months, many human rights victims are concerned that there  
13 might not be enough time to process issues or matters relating to the distribution of  
14 monetary claims until August 11, 2018. The Samahan ng Ex-Detainees Laban sa Detensyon  
15 at Aresto (SELDA), in particular have received reports from some relatives of the approved  
16 claimants who were unable to encash the checks even with Special Powers of Attorneys;  
17

18           **WHEREAS**, without immediate intervention, many human rights victims will be  
19 denied of the monetary reparation intended for them. While no amount of monetary  
20 reparation will restore lost lives, properties, broken relations and dreams of the human  
21 rights victims and their families, the reparation is important for them, as it forms part of the  
22 overall recognition of the reality of human rights violations and their immeasurable  
23 suffering under the Marcos regime and, for many, may provide a measure of relief from the  
24 challenges of poverty;  
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26           **WHEREAS**, it is of utmost urgency that said funds be effectively distributed to those  
27 found qualified by the HRVCB and that relevant government agencies and bodies notably  
28 the Commission on Audit, the Land Bank of the Philippines and the Bureau of Treasury  
29 should coordinate and cooperate to ensure that said effective distribution be speedily  
30 accomplished;  
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32           **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Senate and the House of Representatives in  
33 Congress assembled to extend the validity and availability of the fund for the Marcos human  
34 rights violation victims with Land Bank of the Philippines and authorizing the Commission  
35 on Human Rights to administer the effective distribution of the funds to qualified victims or  
36 their heirs or representatives until December 2019, amending for the purpose Republic Act  
37 No. 10368 and Republic Act No. 10766.  
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39 Adopted,

  
Ana Theresia "Risa" Hontiveros-Baraquel