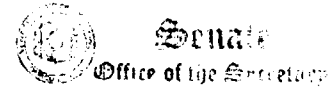


**NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)**



23 OCT -2 P5 :05

SENATE

P.S.R. No. 817

RECEIVED BY: 

INTRODUCED BY SENATOR RISA HONTIVEROS

RESOLUTION

URGING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE TRAGIC DEATH OF OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKER MARJORETTE GARCIA, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF PROVIDING STRONGER MECHANISMS TO PROTECT AND SAFEGUARD FILIPINA MIGRANT WORKERS

WHEREAS, Article XIII, Section 3 of the 1987 Constitution provides for full protection to labor, local and overseas. Further, Republic Act No. 8042 or the Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Act of 1995 provides for adequate and timely social, economic and legal services to Filipino migrant workers;

WHEREAS, Marjorette Garcia was a 32 year old domestic worker in Saudi Arabia. Garcia started working in 2021 to earn a living for her family and was supposed to return to the Philippines in October 2023¹;

WHEREAS, on September 27, 2023, Garcia's family received information that she was found dead with stab wounds, with the complete details and circumstances surrounding her death still unknown²;

WHEREAS, Garcia's family wishes for the immediate return of her body to the country, and requests for an investigation seeking justice for her death;

WHEREAS, the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA) stated that the death of Garcia is allegedly murder, and is already collaborating with other agencies to help in the investigation;

WHEREAS, an inquiry must be conducted to bring justice to Garcia's family, with the objective of ensuring that women migrant workers, who are often subjected to extensive violence, are protected and safeguarded;

WHEREAS, in the recent years, there have been several incidents of overseas

¹ <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/balitambayan/pinoyabroad/883735/pinay-ofw-patay-umano-sa-saksak-sa-saudi-arabia/story/>

² <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/pinoyabroad/dispatch/883779/ofw-found-dead-in-saudi-arabia-with-stab-wounds/story/>

Filipino workers (OFWs) facing abuse and maltreatment in the Middle East, who never made it back to the country alive to return to their families, such as Constanca Dayag who was beaten and sexually assaulted by her employer last May 2019, and Jullibee Ranara who was raped, tortured and murdered last January 2023;

WHEREAS, in 2021, sixty percent (60%) of OFWs were women. In the same year, OWWA reported that seventy-five percent (75%) of the 23,986 cases of abuse included women migrant workers³;

WHEREAS, there must be stronger mechanisms to provide comprehensive assistance and sustainable protection to OFWs, particularly women migrant workers, throughout the whole process from recruitment to repatriation;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED URGING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE TRAGIC DEATH OF OVERSEAS FILIPINO WORKER MARJORETTE GARCIA, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF PROVIDING STRONGER MECHANISMS TO PROTECT AND SAFEGUARD FILIPINA MIGRANT WORKERS


RISA HONTIVEROS
Senator

³ <https://hir.harvard.edu/overseas-filipino-workers-the-modern-day-heroes-of-the-philippines/>