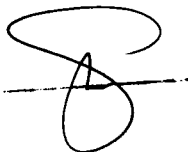


NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

23 DEC -5 P 6 :43

RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE
P.S. RES. No. 880

Introduced by Senator Robinhood Padilla

RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE IN CALLING FOR ADHERENCE TO INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN LAW, A SUSTAINED CEASEFIRE AND UNHINDERED HUMANITARIAN ACCESS IN GAZA AMID THE CONFLICT BETWEEN ISRAEL AND HAMAS

WHEREAS, on 07 October 2023, the whole world was caught unsuspecting by the unprecedented assault launched by the Palestinian resistance group Hamas on Israel, crossing over from Gaza and other nearby communities;

WHEREAS, the Palestinian group released a statement that said attacks were their retaliation to policies of the Israeli government which resulted in increased settler violence in the occupied West Bank and Jerusalem;

WHEREAS, a day after the attack, the Israeli Security Council approved a declaration of war citing Article 40 of the State's Basic Law;

WHEREAS, as of 04 December 2023, there were around 17,000 fatalities, of which approximately 6,700 were children, injuring around 50,000 individuals;

WHEREAS, no less than the United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres emphatically underscored, "This most recent violence does not come in a vacuum. The reality is that it grows out of a long-standing conflict, with a 56-year-long occupation and no political end in sight. It's time to end this vicious circle of bloodshed, hatred, and polarization";

WHEREAS, according to Ms. Erika Guevara-Rosas of Amnesty International, "A

ceasefire is the best way to ensure all civilians are protected across Israel and the Occupied Palestinian Territories and to alleviate mass humanitarian suffering in Gaza”;

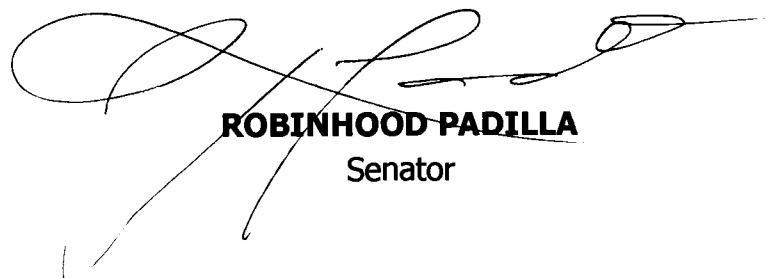
The United States is underscoring the manner in which Israel defends itself, emphasizing the necessity to uphold international humanitarian law. Vice President Harris expressed concern over the high number of civilian casualties among Palestinians and called on Israel to restrict the scope of its offensive in southern Gaza. The U.S. is urging Israel to take additional measures to ensure the protection of innocent civilians during its military operations in Gaza, highlighting the imperative of minimizing harm to non-combatants.

WHEREAS, the United Nations Security Council adopted Resolution No. 2712 on 15 November 2023 by a vote of twelve (12) in favor to none against, and three (3) abstentions, calling for “urgent and extended humanitarian pauses and corridors through the Gaza Strip to facilitate the provision of essential goods and services”;

WHEREAS, the heads of various United Nations bodies jointly called for a humanitarian ceasefire in Gaza, as Israeli airstrikes escalated after nearly a month of conflict. The signatories include figures such as Volker Turk, the U.N. High Commissioner for Human Rights, Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus, the head of the World Health Organization, and U.N. aid chief Martin Griffiths: Now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Senate of the Philippines, to call for adherence to International Humanitarian Law, a sustained ceasefire, and unhindered humanitarian access in Gaza amid the conflict between Israel and Hamas and other Armed Palestinian Groups.

Adopted,



ROBINHOOD PADILLA
Senator