

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

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RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE

P. S. Res. No. 464

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Introduced by Senator Francis N. Pangilinan

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**RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE THAT THE RIGHTS UNDER THE CONSTITUTION AND EXISTING LAW OF THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES WHO HAVE BEEN CHARGED PURSUANT TO PROCLAMATION NO. 1017 SHOULD BE UPHELD, AND THAT THE CONGRESS MUST CONTINUE TO EXTEND PROTECTION TO THEM**

**WHEREAS**, on 24 February 2006, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo issued Proclamation No. 1017 declaring a State of National Emergency;

**WHEREAS**, on 25 February 2006, a day after the issuance of Proclamation No. 1017, the Government sought to arrest several members of the House of Representatives;

**WHEREAS**, Anak-Pawis Representative Crispin Beltran was arrested on 25 February 2006 based on a warrant of arrest issued in 1985 during the Martial Law regime;

**WHEREAS**, other party-list representatives, namely, Satur Ocampo, Lisa Masa, Rafael Mariano, Teodoro Casiño, and Joel Virador were also under pain of arrest without a warrant;

**WHEREAS**, Representatives Ocampo, Masa, Mariano, Casiño and Virador have sought the protection of the House of Representatives against the aforesaid warrantless arrests effected pursuant to Proclamation No. 1017;

**WHEREAS**, through Resolution No. 1169 filed by Representative Rolex Suplico, the House of Representatives extended protective custody to Representatives Ocampo, Masa, Mariano, Casiño and Virador;

**WHEREAS**, the Senate, along with the House of Representatives, is part of the legislative branch of government;

**WHEREAS**, both the Senate and the House of Representatives, as a bicameral Congress, constitute a separate and independent body that is constitutionally mandated to ensure, as part of the democratic checks and balance, that the acts of any other branch of government, such as the executive, do not trample upon the protected rights of the people, including the members of Congress, under the Constitution and existing law;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved, as it is hereby resolved, by the Senate of the Philippines to make known its sense that Representatives Ocampo, Masa, Mariano, Casiño and Virador are entitled to a preliminary investigation, pending the resolution of which, they shall enjoy the protective custody of Congress.

ADOPTED,



FRANCIS N. PANGILINAN