



SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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SENATE

P. S. Res. No. 282

Introduced by Senator FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY INTO THE AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL REPORT THAT DRUG-RELATED KILLINGS APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN EXTRAJUDICIAL EXECUTIONS IN THE GOVERNMENT'S WAR AGAINST DRUGS WITH THE END IN VIEW OF ENACTING LEGISLATIVE MEASURES TO ADDRESS THE SAME

Whereas, the Constitution provides that "No person shall be deprived of life, liberty or property without due process of law."¹

Whereas, Amnesty International (AI) has presented a Report alleging that drug-related killings in the government's war against illegal drugs have been carried out through extrajudicial executions - that is, unlawful and deliberate killings carried out by government order or with complicity or acquiescence.²

Whereas, such findings of extrajudicial executions involve an investigation of 33 alleged incidents of drug-related killings in 20 different cities and towns in the National Capital Region and the provinces of Cebu and Cotabato.³

Whereas, the alleged unlawful and deliberate killings have been described as: 1) perpetrated by state authorities and some unknown armed persons; 2) payment of Php10,000.00 per kill of an alleged offender to policemen and unknown armed men; 3) use of a mere "watch list" that is at times based on hearsay or community rumor or rivalry, with little verification; 4) and apparent failure or unwillingness by the government to prosecute elements of the police involved in drug-related killings.⁴

¹ 1987 Philippine Constitution, Article III, Section 1.

² "If you are Poor, You are Killed" Extrajudicial Executions in the Philippines' War on Drugs. Amnesty International. p. 7.

³ *Ibid.*

⁴ *Ibid.*

Whereas, the above Report should not be simply set aside and ignored as it raises serious allegations that can undermine the country's reputation as a democratic country that fundamentally recognizes and upholds human rights.

Whereas, it is not only a matter of necessity but public accountability as well that AI substantiate and present its evidence before the Senate for public scrutiny to confirm the Report's veracity and to hold, or otherwise clear, the Philippine government of any responsibility or wrongdoing.

Whereas, it behooves the Senate as a democratic institution to look into the AI Report not only to ferret out the truth but also to propose and enact institutional remedies to address the alarming allegations of extrajudicial executions.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the appropriate Senate committee conduct an inquiry into the AI Report with the end in view of enacting legislative measures to address the same.

Adopted,



FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO