

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 527



Introduced by **KABATAAN PARTY-LIST Representative Sarah Jane I. Elago,**
ACT TEACHERS PARTY-LIST Representative France L. Castro,
BAYAN MUNA PARTY-LIST Representatives Carlos Isagani T. Zarate,
Ferdinand Gaité and Eufemia C. Cullamat,
and GABRIELA WOMEN'S PARTY Representative Arlene D. Brosas

RESOLUTION

URGING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE DEATH OF SEVERAL YOUTH IN A MILITARY OPERATION IN BRGY. TUMBRAS, MIDSAYAP, NORTH COTABATO

WHEREAS, Article II Section 5 of the 1987 constitution states that "[t]he maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy;"

WHEREAS, seven youth who were alleged to be members of the Islamic State-aligned Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters (BIFF), however, were killed during a military operation in Barangay Tumbras, Midsayap, North Cotabato;

WHEREAS, the victims were mere civilians whose primary source of living were farming and fishing, they were not involved in any act of terrorism as supported by the testimonies of the residents on their community;

WHEREAS, the victims were resting in their shack or temporary shelter and were deliberately struck down by bullets without any warning from the military personnel;

WHEREAS, there was no sign of resistance, the victims were unarmed and the sudden attack rendered them incapable of doing anything violent;

WHEREAS, to justify the said killings, they claimed that these youths were "child combatants";

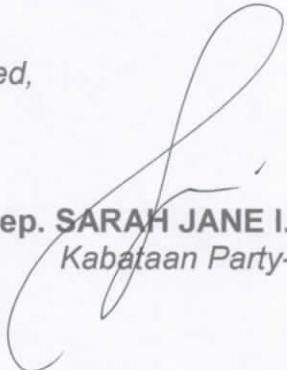
WHEREAS, the International Humanitarian Law recognizes the importance of civilian protection in any hostilities between the state and combatants;

WHEREAS, some of the victims were minors and are therefore protected by the law and existing international agreements during armed conflicts;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, that the House probe and investigate, in aid of legislation, the death of several youth in Barangay Tumbras, Midsayap, North Cotabato;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives condemns the series of youth killings and calls the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) to uphold its principles in protecting the citizens not to rage violence and killings against the citizenry.

Adopted,



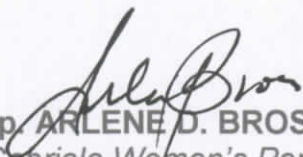
Rep. **SARAH JANE I. ELAGO**
Kabataan Party-list

Rep. **FERDINAND GAITE**
Bayan Muna Party-list



Rep. **FRANCE L. CASTRO**
ACT Teachers Party-list

Rep. **EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT**
Bayan Muna Party-list



Rep. **ARLENE D. BROSAS**
Gabriela Women's Party



Rep. **CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE**
Bayan Muna Party-list