

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines
Metro Manila
Sixteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

Begun and held in Metro Manila, on Monday, the twenty-eighth day of July, two thousand fourteen.



[JOINT RESOLUTION NO. **03**]

JOINT RESOLUTION EXTENDING THE PERIOD FOR FILING OF CLAIMS FOR REPARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS VICTIMS, UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10368, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE HUMAN RIGHTS VICTIMS REPARATION AND RECOGNITION ACT OF 2013

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10368, otherwise known as the Human Rights Victims Reparation and Recognition Act of 2013, signed into law on February 25, 2013, provides for the recognition and monetary and nonmonetary reparation for victims whose human rights were violated by persons acting in an official capacity and/or agents of the State during, as a rule, the period from September 21, 1972 to February 25, 1986;

WHEREAS, this is consistent with our Constitution that, among others, provides that the State values the dignity of every human person and guarantees full respect for human rights (Section 11, Article II), prohibits the use of torture, force, violence, threat, intimidation, or any other means which vitiate

the free will, and mandates the compensation and rehabilitation of victims of torture or similar practices and their families (Section 12, Article III);

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 23 of Republic Act No. 10368, the period within which a human rights violations victim, or his/her legal heir/s or representatives can file an application with the Human Rights Victims' Claims Board created to implement the law is six (6) months from the effectivity of the implementing rules and regulations of the Act, otherwise, his/her failure to do so within said period is deemed a waiver of the right to file the same;

WHEREAS, Section 29 of the same law also states that the Board shall complete its work within two (2) years from the effectivity of the implementing rules and regulations promulgated by it, and that after such period, the Board shall become *functus officio*;

WHEREAS, the implementing rules and regulations of Republic Act No. 10368 became effective on May 12, 2014, and so the application period will end on November 10, 2014, and the existence of the Board on May 12, 2016;

WHEREAS, the huge number of applicants coming in to the Board's main office in Quezon City as well as at its scheduled mobile intakes in the regions and provinces, pose a big challenge to the existing and available material and human resources of the Board, and has therefore made it apparent that there is a need to extend the period for filing of claims for reparation under Republic Act No. 10368, given the time allowed by the law;

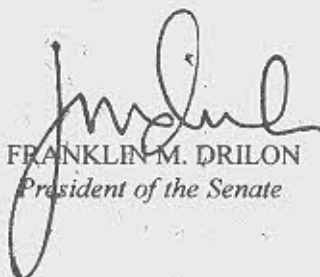
WHEREAS, the extension of the application period will give all legitimate claimants, especially in the far-flung areas of the country, full opportunity to file their claims with the Board and thereby provide them with access to a means of gaining redress for the sufferings and sacrifices that they endured during martial law;

WHEREAS, the extension of the period for filing of claims for reparation and recognition will allow the Board to fulfill its mandate and help enhance human rights as the vital nexus connecting the sacrifices and heroism of the past to building a fair and functioning Philippine society for tomorrow: Now, therefore, be it


Resolved by the Senate and the House of Representatives,
To extend the period for filing of claims for reparation of human rights violations victims, under Republic Act No. 10368, for another period of six (6) months from November 10, 2014, or until May 2015, to ensure that the goals and objectives of the said Act are fully achieved.

Approved,


FELICIANO BELMONTE JR.
*Speaker of the House
of Representatives*


FRANKLIN M. DRILON
President of the Senate

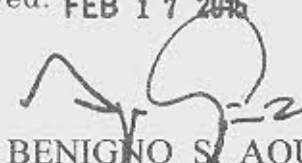
Senate Joint Resolution No. 10, which was adopted by the Senate on November 18, 2014, was adopted as an amendment to House Joint Resolution No. 16 by the House of Representatives on November 24, 2014.


MARILYN B. BARUA-YAP
*Secretary General
House of Representatives*


OSCAR G. YABES
Secretary of the Senate

Approved: FEB 17 2015




BENIGNO S. AQUINO III
President of the Philippines

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Office of the President of the Philippines



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