

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 187

Introduced by

REP. ARLENE D. BROSAS (Gabriela Women's Party);
REPS. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE, FERDINAND R. GAITE, EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT
(Bayan Muna Partylist); REP. FRANCE L. CASTRO (ACT Teachers Partylist);
and REP. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO (Kabataan Partylist)

**A RESOLUTION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES EXPRESSING RAGE AND
CONDEMNATION ON THE SERIES OF KILLINGS IN NEGROS ISLAND WHERE AN INCREASE ON
THE NUMBER OF DEATHS WAS SEEN SINCE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF MEMORANDUM
ORDER NO. 32 AND CALLING ALL LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES TO IMMEDIATELY PUT AN
END TO THE KILLINGS**

WHEREAS, in November 22, 2018, President Rodrigo Duterte signed the Memorandum Order 32 (MO 32) on November 22, 2018 which authorizes the deployment of more troops to parts of Visayas and the Bicol Region;

WHEREAS, the memorandum reinforces guidelines under state of national emergency wherein the AFP and PNP can conduct warrantless arrests, searches, and seizures;

WHEREAS, since the issuance of Memorandum Order 32, the record of killings notably spiked and steadily increased in Visayas and the Bicol Region, especially in Negros Oriental where 36 civilians have been killed as of July 2019;

WHEREAS, the military operations of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) are heavily concentrated in Negros Oriental and Negros Occidental. Oplan Sauron was also implemented by AFP Central Command (CENTCOM) where 3,000 troops from the 94th IBPA and 62nd IBPA of the 302nd Brigade along with the Philippine National Police, Special Action Force (SAF), Regional Mobile Force (RMF7), Negros Oriental PNP Office (NOPPO), Philippine Navy, and Philippine Air Force were mobilised;

WHEREAS, the militarization of the areas resulted to fourteen (14) deaths in Canlaon, Manjuyod and Sta. Catalina on March 30, 2019;

WHEREAS, on February 23, 2018, four (4) sugar workers were killed in the Hacienda of Don Gaspar Vicente Family in Sitio Bondo, Siaton, Negros Oriental wherein the victims were members of the National Federation of Sugar Workers (NFSW) and CARP beneficiaries;

WHEREAS, it can be recalled that on October 20, 2018, nine (9) farmers belonging to the NFSW were murdered by alleged state agents in their tents at Hacienda Nene, Sagay City;

WHEREAS, six (6) persons were also killed while thirty-one (31) persons were arrested during the simultaneous police operations in Negros Oriental on December 27, 2018;

WHEREAS, fourteen (14) peasants were likewise killed in a joint police and military operations in three areas in Negros Oriental on March 30, 2019;

WHEREAS, the days from July 23-28, 2019 witnessed the most number of deaths when fifteen (15) were killed in a span of five days;

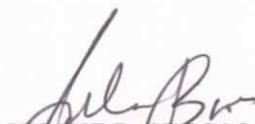
WHEREAS, all of the victims were unarmed civilians (lawyers, teachers, rights defenders, activists, church people, and farmers) of which the youngest is a 1-year old baby boy named Marjon Ocampo was killed alongside his father, Marlon Ocampo in Sta. Catalina, Negros;


WHEREAS, from January 2017 to July 2019, there are a total of eighty-seven (87) victims of extrajudicial killings recorded in the Negros Island alone;

WHEREAS, as members of Congress and representatives of our people, we cannot just sit idly by and allow these wanton violations of human rights, particularly the senseless killings of innocent people;

NOW, THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, to condemn the series of killings in Negros Island where an increase on the number of deaths was seen since the implementation of Memorandum Order No. 32 and calling all law enforcement agencies to immediately put an end to the killings.

Adopted,



ARLENE D. BROSAS
Gabriela Women's Party


CARLOS SAGANT ZARATE
Bayan Muna Partylist


FERDINAND R. GAITE
Bayan Muna Partylist


EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT
Bayan Muna Partylist


FRANCE L. CASTRO
Act Teachers Partylist


SARAH JANE I. ELAGO
Kabataan Partylist