

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

First Regular Session
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

House Resolution No. 400



Introduced by the Honorable Precious Hipolito Castelo

A RESOLUTION

URGING THE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE RECENT INCIDENT AT MANILA CITY JAIL WHERE TWO (2) INMATES WERE KILLED AND THIRTY-TWO (32) WERE HURT IN A RIOT BETWEEN MEMBERS OF TWO (2) GROUPS, WITH THE END VIEW OF PROPOSING REMEDIAL LEGISLATION TO IMPROVE THE CONDITIONS OF OUR JAIL FACILITIES

WHEREAS, Article III, Section 19, Paragraph 2 of our Philippine Constitution provides that: "The employment of physical, psychological, or degrading punishment against any prisoner or detainee or the use of substandard or inadequate penal facilities under subhuman conditions shall be dealt with by law".

WHEREAS, Article 10 (1) of the International Convention on Civil and Political Rights provides that: "All persons deprived of their liberty shall be treated with humanity and with respect for the inherent dignity of the human person".

WHEREAS, last September 29, 2019, two inmates in the Manila City Jail were killed while several others were injured when a riot broke out inside the facility;

WHEREAS, the fight broke out when members of rival gangs Batang City Jail and Sputnik Gang had an altercation over a sleeping space, as said by Jail Inspector Jayrex Bustinera, spokesperson of the Manila City Jail;

WHEREAS, the present state of nearly all penitentiaries in the country has been described as inhumane, particularly the 2.4 hectare Manila City Jail, the total population of which is 5,350, more than three times its capacity;

WHEREAS, it is within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Justice to investigate all matters directly and principally relating to penitentiaries;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives to direct the Committee on Justice to conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, on the recent incident at Manila City Jail where two (2) inmates were killed and thirty-two (32) were hurt in a riot, with the end view of proposing remedial legislation to improve conditions of our jail facilities.

ADOPTED,


PRECIOUS HIPOLITO CASTELO

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