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Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 1252



Introduced by

BAYAN MUNA Representatives EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT,
CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE and FERDINAND R. GAITE,
GABRIELA Women's Party Representative ARLENE D. BROSAS,
ACT TEACHERS Party-List Representative FRANCE L. CASTRO,
and KABATAAN Party-List Representative SARAH JANE I. ELAGO

RESOLUTION

URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO INVESTIGATE,
IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE KILLING OF 78-YEAR-OLD
ROLANDO PATIÑO LEYSON SR. BY SUSPECTED STATE SECURITY FORCES
IN SISON, SURIGAO DEL NORTE

WHEREAS, on September 11, 2020 at around 11:30 PM, at least five (5) armed men wearing bonnets arrived in the home of 78-year-old Rolando Patiño Leyson. Sr. in Km. 20, Purok 5, Brgy. San Pedro, Sison, Surigao del Norte. Witnesses claimed, two (2) of the armed men barged into his house and shot him several times, causing his instant death. Upon initial investigation, the elderly Leyson suffered 16 gunshot wounds. Leyson Sr. is the father of Rolando Leyson Jr., also known as Ka Edroy, a publicly known figure of the New People's Army (NPA) in Surigao del Norte;

WHEREAS, the armed men, believed to be police elements and their agents boarded a black Fortuner SUV, which witnesses claimed drove in the direction of Bad-as, Surigao del Norte. Witnesses point out that PNP and military checkpoints can be found along the route from Alegria going to Bad-as, where the Army's 901st Brigade is located. However, suspiciously, the vehicle and the perpetrators were not apprehended;

WHEREAS, the killing of Rolando Patiño Leyson Sr. comes after, and, is purportedly a consequence of, the killing of P/Sgt. Restie Dandan, head of Intelligence of PNP-Sison, who was killed by the NPA sometime last August;

WHEREAS, in 1998 the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the National Democratic Front of the Philippines (NDFP) entered into the Comprehensive Agreement on Respect for Human Rights and International Humanitarian Law (CAHRIHL), in accordance with International Humanitarian Law (IHL) to guarantee the protection of civilians in times of armed conflict. The agreement distinguishes between civilians and combatants and provides protection for civilian populations, guaranteeing that civilians, together with their property, shall not be the object of attack. The killing of Leyson Sr., who was an elderly civilian with no participation in armed combat, is a clear violation of the said agreement meant to protect non-combatants and limit the impacts of armed conflict towards civilians;

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2 **WHEREAS**, the murder of Leyson Sr. adds to the growing list of death squad-style killings
3 against civilians and activists, which has intensified since the creation in 2017 of the National
4 Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC). The killing of civilians
5 continues with perpetrators left unaccountable, even with the increased police and military
6 presence and checkpoints amid the pandemic;
7

8 **WHEREAS**, the continuing attacks and killings against civilians and activists are unacceptable.
9 It is imperative for members of Congress, as representatives of our people, to defend the rights
10 of our people and check on the excesses and violations committed against them, especially in this
11 time of crisis. Laws and rules should serve the interest of our people and violators should be held
12 accountable;
13

14 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the
15 House of Representatives conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, on the killing of 78-year-
16 old Rolando Patiño Leyson Sr. by suspected state security forces in Sison, Surigao Del Norte.
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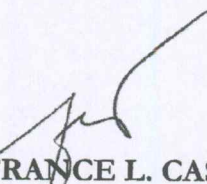
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25 **REP. EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT**
26 *Bayan Muna Partylist*

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30 **REP. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE**
31 *Bayan Muna Partylist*

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35 **REP. FERDINAND R. GAITE**
36 *Bayan Muna Partylist*

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40 **REP. ARLENE D. BROSAS**
41 *GABRIELA Women's Party*

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REP. FRANCE L. CASTRO
ACT Teachers Partylist


REP. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO
Kabataan Partylist