

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines
Metro Manila

Seventeenth Congress

Joint Session



Begun and held in Metro Manila, on Wednesday, the thirteenth day of December, two thousand seventeen.

RESOLUTION OF BOTH HOUSES NO. 4

RESOLUTION OF BOTH HOUSES FURTHER EXTENDING PROCLAMATION NO. 216, SERIES OF 2017, ENTITLED "DECLARING A STATE OF MARTIAL LAW AND SUSPENDING THE PRIVILEGE OF THE WRIT OF *HABEAS CORPUS* IN THE WHOLE OF MINDANAO" FOR A PERIOD OF ONE (1) YEAR FROM JANUARY 1, 2018 TO DECEMBER 31, 2018

WHEREAS, on May 23, 2017, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Proclamation No. 216, Series of 2017, entitled "Declaring a State of Martial Law and Suspending the Privilege of the Writ of *Habeas Corpus* in the Whole of Mindanao", to address the rebellion launched by the Maute Group and elements of the Abu Sayyaf Group in Marawi City, and to restore peace and order in Mindanao;

WHEREAS, the Senate and the House of Representatives, in a Special Joint Session held on July 22, 2017, extended the Proclamation of Martial Law and the Suspension of the Privilege of the Writ of *Habeas Corpus* in the Whole of Mindanao until December 31, 2017;

WHEREAS, in a communication addressed to the Senate and the House of Representatives, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte requested the Congress of the Philippines "to further extend the proclamation of Martial Law and the suspension of the privilege of the writ of *habeas corpus* in the whole of Mindanao for a period of one (1) year, from 01 January 2018 to 31 December 2018, or for such other period of time as the Congress may determine, in accordance with Section 18, Article VII of the 1987 Philippine Constitution";

WHEREAS, the President informed the Congress of the Philippines of the remarkable progress made during the period of Martial Law, but nevertheless reported the following essential facts, which as Commander-in-Chief of all armed forces of the Philippines, he has personal knowledge of: First, despite the death of Hapilon and the Maute brothers, the remnants of their groups have continued to rebuild their organization through the recruitment and training of new members and fighters to carry on the rebellion; Second, the Turaifie Group has likewise been monitored to be planning to conduct bombings, notably targeting the Cotabato area; Third, the Bangsamoro Islamic Freedom Fighters continue to defy the government by perpetrating at least fifteen (15) violent incidents during the Martial Law period in Maguindanao and North Cotabato; Fourth, the remnants of the Abu Sayyaf Group in Basilan, Sulu, Tawi-Tawi, and Zamboanga Peninsula remain a serious security concern; and last, the New People's Army took advantage of the situation and intensified their decades-long rebellion against the government and stepped up terrorist acts against innocent civilians and private entities, as well as guerrilla warfare against the security sector and public and government infrastructure, purposely to seize political power through violent means and supplant the country's democratic form of government with Communist rule;

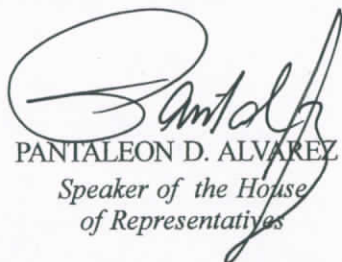
WHEREAS, Section 18, Article VII of the 1987 Constitution authorizes the Congress of the Philippines to extend, at the initiative of the President, such proclamation or suspension for a period to be determined by the Congress of the Philippines, if the invasion or rebellion shall persist and public safety requires it;

WHEREAS, on December 13, 2017, after thorough discussion and extensive debate, the Congress of the Philippines in a Joint Session, by two hundred forty (240) affirmative votes comprising the majority of all its Members, has determined that rebellion persists, and that public safety indubitably requires the further extension of the Proclamation of Martial Law and the Suspension of the Privilege of the Writ of *Habeas Corpus* in the Whole of Mindanao: Now, therefore, be it


Resolved by the Senate and the House of Representatives in a Joint Session Assembled, To further extend Proclamation No. 216, Series of 2017, entitled "Declaring a State of Martial Law and Suspending the Privilege of the Writ of Habeas Corpus in the Whole of Mindanao" for a period of one (1) year from January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018.

Adopted,


 AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III
President of the Senate


 PANTALEON D. ALVAREZ
*Speaker of the House
 of Representatives*

This Resolution of Both Houses was adopted by the House of Representatives and the Senate in a Joint Session on December 13, 2017.


 LUTGARDO B. BARBO
Secretary of the Senate


 CESAR STRAIT PAREJA
*Secretary General
 House of Representatives*