



SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
First Regular Session )

'17 MAR 14 P5:26

SENATE  
P.S. Resolution No. 328

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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Introduced by: Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino IV

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**A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALLEGED VIOLATIONS BY SOME FUNERAL PARLORS IN COLLUSION WITH LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS AGAINST FAMILIES OF VICTIMS OF DRUG-RELATED KILLINGS BY IMPOSING EXCESSIVE FEES FOR THEIR SERVICES**

**WHEREAS**, Section 1 of Article XI of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states that, Public office is a public trust. Public officers and employees must at all times be accountable to the people, and serve them with utmost responsibility, integrity, loyalty, and efficiency;

**WHEREAS**, Congress, pursuant to Section 1, Article III of the Constitution, shall give highest priority to the enactment of measures that protect and enhance the right of all the people to human dignity, and reduce social, economic, and political inequalities;

**WHEREAS**, a report by Amnesty International on the prevalence of drug-related killings in the Philippines revealed a scheme that aggravates the plight of victims and their families—where police officers “established a racket with funeral homes, who reward them for each dead body sent their way;”<sup>1</sup>

**WHEREAS**, further news sources corroborated AI’s report by stating that the services of several funeral homes have been undermined by corruption in the industry. Particularly, they cite instances when other funeral homes offer commissions to policemen who provide them with information when people have been killed. As a result of this scheme, police seek out pricey funeral homes when cheaper ones might exist;<sup>2</sup>

**WHEREAS**, in an interview, two funeral parlor owners revealed that it was the victims’ families who shouldered the burden of this long-running

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<sup>1</sup> <http://interaksyon.com/article/136767/economy-of-murder--cops-get-p8000-to-p15000-per-ejk---amnesty-international>

<sup>2</sup> <http://gulfnnews.com/news/asia/philippines/drug-war-when-funeral-homes-offer-financial-incentives-1.1980214>

practice.<sup>3</sup> In one instance, a relative of a drug-related killing complained that the police-accredited funeral home holding her relative was seeking P40,000 for its services whereas the same cost only P7,500 elsewhere;<sup>4</sup>

**WHEREAS**, there is a need to determine what measures can be enacted to protect the families of victims of drug-related killings from the practice of charging excessively for funeral expenses to the benefit of corrupt police officers;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as it hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines to direct the appropriate senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the alleged violations by some funeral parlors in collusion with law enforcement officers against families of victims of drug-related killings by imposing excessive fees for their services.

Adopted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Aquino", written in a cursive style.

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<sup>3</sup> <http://www.news.com.au/lifestyle/real-life/news-life/undertaker-i-think-he-was-still-alive-when-they-hammered-his-nails/news-story/dbb4a30c1c18d52d74ab989a3ea3e59d>

<sup>4</sup> <http://newsinfo.inquirer.net/857871/hunt-for-drug-suspect-leaves-7-dead>