



**SENATE**

**P.S. RES. No. 901**

'18 SEP 20 P2:31

---

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

---

RECEIVED \_\_\_\_\_  
Office of the Secretary

**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND DANGEROUS DRUGS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE ASSASSINATION OF AND ATTACKS AGAINST LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS WITH THE END IN VIEW OF CONDUCTING AN ASSESSMENT OF THE PEACE AND ORDER SITUATION IN THE COUNTRY AND AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6975, AS AMENDED**

1           **WHEREAS**, it is stated in Article 2, Section 5 of the 1987 Philippine  
2 Constitution that "the maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty,  
3 and property, and promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment  
4 by all the people of the blessings of democracy;"

5           **WHEREAS**, the Philippine National Police is mandated under Republic Act No.  
6 6975, as amended, to "enforce all laws and ordinances relative to the protection of  
7 lives and properties; maintain peace and order and take all necessary steps to  
8 ensure public safety; investigate and prevent crimes, effect the arrest of criminal  
9 offenders and bring offenders to justice and assist their prosecution;"

10           **WHEREAS**, in the last two (2) years, an alarming number of cases of killings  
11 of local government officials in various parts of the country has been observed;

12           **WHEREAS**, in the past three months alone, it has been reported that two (2)  
13 mayors and two (2) vice mayors were shot by unidentified assassins;

14           **WHEREAS**, on July 2, 2018, Mayor Antonio Halili of Tanauan City, Batangas  
15 was shot dead during the weekly flag raising ceremony in front of the city hall.

1 Mayor Halili was rushed to the hospital following the shooting but succumbed to the  
2 gunshot wound on his chest;

3 **WHEREAS**, on July 3, 2018, Mayor Ferdinand Bote of General Tinio, Nueva  
4 Ecija was killed in an ambush in Cabanatuan City. Mayor Bote was aboard a Toyota  
5 Fortuner when he was shot multiple times. He was rushed to MV Gallego Hospital  
6 but was declared dead on arrival;

7 **WHEREAS**, on July 7, 2018, Vice Mayor Alexander Lubigan of Trece Martires,  
8 Cavite was killed in an ambush when gunmen blocked the path of his black Toyota  
9 Hi-lux pickup truck and opened fire. Vice Mayor Lubigan was killed instantly while his  
10 driver-bodyguard succumbed to his wounds a few hours later at General Emilio  
11 Aguinaldo Memorial Hospital. His security aide survived and was being treated in the  
12 city's Korea-Philippines Friendship Hospital;

13 **WHEREAS**, on July 11, 2018, Vice Mayor Al-Rashid Mohammad Ali of Sapa-  
14 Sapa, Tawi-Tawi was shot dead in an ambush after a lone gunman approached the  
15 vice mayor's vehicle and fired four times at Vice Mayor Ali, who was seated in the  
16 front passenger side. The vice mayor was rushed to the hospital was declared dead  
17 on arrival;

18 **WHEREAS**, there have been other reports of local government officials being  
19 killed in the last two years namely:

- 20 a) Vice Mayor Aaron Sampaga of Pamplona, Cagayan on August 5, 2016;
- 21 b) Mayor Samsudin Dimaukom of Datu Saudi Ampatuan, Maguindanao on  
22 October 28, 2016;
- 23 c) Mayor Rolando Espinosa of Albuera, Leyte on November 5, 2016;
- 24 d) Vice Mayor Anwar Sindatuk of Datu Saudi Ampatuan, Maguindanao on  
25 November 27, 2016;
- 26 e) Mayor Mohammad Limbona of Pantar, Lanao del Norte on December  
27 30, 2016;
- 28 f) Mayor Arsenio Agustin of Marcos, Ilocos Norte on June 3, 2017;
- 29 g) Mayor Leovino Hidalgo of Balete, Batangas on June 10, 2017;
- 30 h) Mayor Reynaldo Parojinog of Ozamiz, Misamis Occidental on July 30,  
31 2017;

- 1 i) Vice Mayor Jackson Dy of Roxas, Oriental Mindoro on September 23,  
2 2017;  
3 j) Vice Mayor Jonah John Ungab of Ronda, Cebu on February 19, 2018;  
4 k) Mayor Ronald Tirol of Buenavista, Bohol on May 27, 2018; and  
5 l) Mayor Mariano Blanco III of Ronda, Cebu on September 5, 2018;

6 **WHEREAS**, most recently, Carmencita Navarro, the wife of Bislig City Mayor  
7 Librado Navarro was killed by a lone gunman on 15 September 2018, while she was  
8 walking at the Poblacion's Baywalk at around 6:15 PM;

9 **WHEREAS**, the spate of killings of local government officials throughout the  
10 country has caused grave concern, fear, insecurity, and distress in the general  
11 populace, especially given that many of these killings have occurred in broad  
12 daylight;

13 **WHEREAS**, the deadly attacks on local leaders underscore the growing  
14 culture of impunity and escalating violence that threatens to permeate Philippine  
15 society today;

16 **WHEREAS**, there is cause for more action to be done towards investigating  
17 these killings so as to ensure the Filipino people that the State is still capable of  
18 maintaining peace and order, protecting the lives of the people, and promoting the  
19 general welfare of the nation;

20 **WHEREAS**, the DILG and the PNP have the duty to provide the public with  
21 the true state of peace and order in the country: Now, therefore, be it

22 **RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved, to direct the Committee on Public Order  
23 and Dangerous Drugs to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, into the  
24 assassination of and attacks against local government officials with the end in view  
25 of conducting an assessment of the peace and order situation in the country and  
26 amending Republic Act No. 6975, as amended.

Adopted,

