

Republic of the Philippines
Congress of the Philippines
Senate

Manila City

Fourteenth Congress

First Regular Session



RESOLUTION NO. 76

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE PROFOUND
SYMPATHY AND SINCERE CONDOLENCE OF
THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES ON THE
DEATH OF HONORABLE CRISPIN B.
BELTRAN

WHEREAS, the Honorable Crispin "Ka Bel" B. Beltran, Sectoral Representative at the House of Representatives, a labor leader and an unrelenting defender of labor and human rights, passed away on May 20, 2008;

WHEREAS, Ka Bel had his humble beginnings as a courier for the guerrillas and worked as a janitor to support his education;

WHEREAS, at the early age of 20, when working as a driver at the Manila Yellow Taxicab Company, Ka Bel joined the other drivers in a protest rally against unfair labor practices;

WHEREAS, the violence that erupted from the said protest rally opened Ka Bel's heart for the cause of the workers and since then committed to remain at the forefront of the workers' crusade;

WHEREAS, Ka Bel had been an activist for more than fifty (50) years, survived the wrath of martial law years, led and joined different labor protests and movements, and consistently defied globalization especially in the forms of privatization and deregulation;

WHEREAS, he organized, together with his other colleagues, several workers' organizations including the Amalgamated Taxi Drivers Association where he served as the president from 1955 to 1963, the Confederation of Labor of the Philippines where he served as vice chairman from 1963 to 1972, and helped in the organization of Philippine Workers Congress, KASAMA, PACMAP, *Pederasyon ng mga Unyon sa Rizal*, and Philippine Nationalist Labor Organization (PANALO);

WHEREAS, Ka Bel joined the Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU), a militant and progressive labor movement in 1955 of which he became the chairperson in 1986;

WHEREAS, Ka Bel, with his heart truly dedicated to fighting the crusade of laborers and the Filipino masses, was the vice chairman of the Partido ng Bayan from 1986 to 1987, chairman of the Bagong Alyansang Makabayan from 1993 to 1999, trade unionist of Kilusang Mayo Uno from 1955 to 2008, vice chairman of the Partido Bayan Muna from 2000 to 2008, and served as a chairman of the International League of People's Struggles (ILPS);

WHEREAS, Congressman Beltran served as the vice chairman of the Bayan Muna Political Party from February 2001 to November 2003 and served as one of its Sectoral Representatives at the House of Representatives;

WHEREAS, during his stint at the House of Representatives, he actively took part in discussions and actions regarding poverty, human rights, social justice and struggle for genuine freedom and democracy;

WHEREAS, among his priority legislations were the omnibus amendment of the Labor Code, across-the-board wage increase in the salary rates of employees and workers both in the private and public sector;

WHEREAS, Congressman Beltran, among others, vigorously opposed the privatization of the Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), uncovered the alleged anomalies at the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) and in the Judiciary Development Fund (JDF) of the court employees, and rose up against the military aggression of the United States of America on Iraq and the international campaign against terrorism;

WHEREAS, in 2006, Congressman Beltran was arrested and charged with inciting to sedition shortly after a state of emergency was declared by the government and was subsequently implicated in an alleged plot to oust the administration;

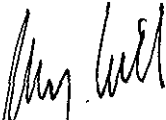
WHEREAS, Congressman Beltran was released from detention in June 2007 when the Supreme Court declared void the charges against him and other militant leaders;

WHEREAS, the country is earnestly grateful for having been served by a dedicated leader and a devoted comrade who unselfishly offered his wisdom, his heart and his soul for the realization of our common goal to provide every Filipino a decent, just and peaceful society, thus this august Chamber joins his family and the whole nation in this period of bereavement: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the Philippines, To express, as it hereby expresses, its profound sympathy and sincere condolence on the death of Honorable Crispin B. Beltran;

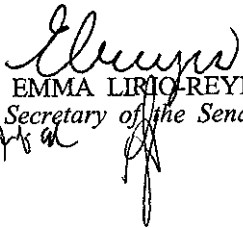
Resolved, further, That a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the bereaved family of Honorable Crispin B. Beltran.

Adopted,



MANNY VILLAR
President of the Senate

This Resolution was adopted by the Senate on May 20, 2008.



EMMA LIRIO-REYES
Secretary of the Senate