Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 2033

Introduced by
BAYAN MUNA Representatives EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT,
CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE and FERDINAND R. GAITE,
Albay, 1st District Representative EDCEL C. LAGMAN
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 THROUGH THE COMMITTEE
ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO ISSUE CONDEMNATION AND CONDUCT AN
INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE KILLING OF ACTIVISTS
JEMAR PALERO AND MARLON NAPERI BY POLICE OFFICERS IN
GUINOBATAN, ALBAY

WHEREAS, on July 27, 2021, at around 1 AM, two (2) activists were reportedly shot dead by
state armed forces after being seen spray-painting protest calls at Banao Bridge along Maharlika
Highway in Guinobatan, Albay. They were identified as Jemar Palero, 22 years old from
Organisasyon ng mga Magsasaka sa Albay, and Marlon Naperi, 38 years old, from human rights
group Albay People’s Organization (APO), an affiliate of rights group Karapatan – Bicol. The
activists were spray-painting the unfinished protest art stating "DUTERTE IBAGS", presumably
painting the call “DUTERTE IBAGSAK” which was left unfinished;

WHEREAS, according to police officers, Palero and Naperi allegedly fought forcing them to
shoot at the activists. However, rights groups condemned the killing and belied the police’s
“nanlaban” narrative stating that the unarmed civilians were only carrying spray paint and did not
have any firearms;

WHEREAS, the “nanlaban” narrative has been repeatedly used by police to justify the killings
under Oplan Tokhang, the campaign against illegal drugs led by the Philippine National Police.
The campaign has been heavily criticized for resulting in at least 8,000 killings according to
government records. Human rights groups however estimate at least 30,000 killings as a result of
the notorious war on drugs. In June 2020, the United Nations issued a report stating that a pattern
in reports suggested that police officers planted evidence in drug war operations citing repeated
recovery of guns bearing the same serial numbers from different victims in different locations;

WHEREAS, activists Jemar Palero and Marlon Naperi were gunned down just hours before
President Rodrigo Duterte’s State of the Nation Address (SONA) 2021. In his speech, the
President repeated his “shoot them dead” remark against alleged communists. These remarks
which the President has repeatedly stated against quarantine violators, against activists, and human
rights advocates, have been called out by rights groups and even the Commission on Human
Rights for inciting violence and encouraging killings against activists and unarmed civilians;

WHEREAS, it is imperative for members of Congress, as representatives of our people, to defend
the rights of our people and check on excesses and violations, especially in this time of crisis. It
must bring perpetrators to account to put a stop to the killings and rights violations against its
people. Laws and rules should serve the interest of our people, and should not be weaponized to
suppress their rights and oppress them;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the
House of Representatives, through the Committee on Human Rights, issue condemnation and
conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, on the killing of activists Jemar Palero And Marlon
Naperi by police officers in Guinobatan, Albay.

Adopted,


REP. EUCEMIA C. CULLAMAT
Bayan Muna Partylist

REP. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE
Bayan Muna Partylist

REP. EDCEL C. LAGMAN
Albay, 1st District

REP. ARLENE D. BROSAS
GABRIELA Women’s Party

REP. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE
Bayan Muna Partylist

REP. FERDINAND R. GAITE
Bayan Muna Partylist

REP. FRANCE L. CASTRO
ACT Teachers Partylist

REP. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO
Kabataan Partylist