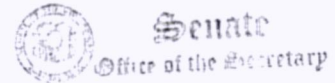
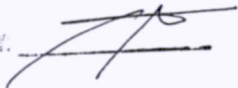


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
SECOND REGULAR SESSION)



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RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE
P.S.R NO. 401

INTRODUCED BY: SEN. ANA THERESIA HONTIVEROS-BARAQUEL

RESOLUTION

COMMENDING THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP) AND THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP) FOR THEIR BRAVERY AND HEROISM IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE MAUTE-ABU SAYYAF TERRORIST GROUP AND FOR THEIR VALIANT EFFORTS AND SACRIFICES IN TRYING TO RECLAIM THE ISLAMIC CITY OF MARAWI FROM THE CLUTCHES OF SAID TERRORIST GROUP

WHEREAS, the Islamic City of Marawi, once home to 200,000 Filipinos, is now virtually deserted after terrorists, pledging allegiance to ISIS, sowed terror in the city following their resistance to law enforcement operations against their leader, Ismael Hapilon on 23 May 2017;

WHEREAS, such acts of terror by the Maute terrorists and their allies and sympathizers, included the burning of houses, church, schools, and government facilities, as well as the kidnapping and murder of civilians in Marawi;

WHEREAS, in the hopes of controlling the situation, the President imposed Martial Law over all of Mindanao before midnight of the same day;

WHEREAS, the nation is a living witness to the barbarism of terrorists who have shown no respect for life or religion by executing civilians, children and elderly included, deliberately using human shields to hide and escape, and destroying and desecrating places of worship, among others;

WHEREAS, government security forces have been battling these terrorists and are now engaged in a deadly cat and mouse chase to rid the city of the remaining Maute/Abu Sayyaf members, initially estimated to number around 500, who have used houses, mosques, madrasahs, other structures, alleys, network of underground tunnels as refuge, making them more difficult to flush out and contain;

WHEREAS, there have been decisive victories in the operation against terrorists in Marawi including the recovery of territory and the discovery of more than P 73 Million in cash and checks during clearing operations;

WHEREAS, such military and police operations come at a high price with the death of several members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Philippine National Police which, as of 8 June 2017, reportedly stands at 39, while civilian deaths are now reported to have reached 20;

WHEREAS, our gallant men in uniform involved in operations to retake Marawi are all heroes who deserve our admiration and support;

WHEREAS, it is but fitting for the Senate to commend our soldiers and policemen in Marawi for their heroism and bravery in upholding their sworn duty to protect flag and country.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved to commend the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Philippine National Police (PNO) for their bravery and heroism in the fight against the Maute-Abu Sayyaf terrorist group and for their valiant efforts and sacrifices in trying to reclaim the Islamic city of Marawi from the clutches of said terrorist group.

Adopted.


ANA THERESIA "RISA" HONTIVEROS-BARAQUEL