

Republic of the Philippines  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

**FIFTEENTH CONGRESS**  
**First Regular Session**

**House Resolution No. 1301**

---

---

Introduced by **DIWA Party-list Representative Emmeline Y. Aglipay**

---

---

**A RESOLUTION CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION  
OF THE KILLING OF HUMAN RIGHTS WORKER BENJAMIN BAYLES AND  
FOR THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON JUSTICE TO RELEASE ITS  
COMMITTEE REPORT REGARDING THE SAID INVESTIGATION**

**WHEREAS**, Benjamin “Benjie” Bayles (hereinafter referred to as “Bayles”) was a lay leader, organizer of the National Federation of Sugar Workers, a member of the September 21 Movement, and a human rights worker for KARAPATAN-Negros;

**WHEREAS**, Bayles was shot and killed by two (2) men on June 14, 2010 at around 4:30 p.m. at Barangay Su-ay, Himamaylan City, Negros Occidental;

**WHEREAS**, according to several news reports published on websites such as [www.karapatan.org](http://www.karapatan.org) and [www.fidh.org](http://www.fidh.org), Bayles was approached by two (2) men on board a motorcycle while waiting for a ride at a crossing at Sitio Antolo. The rider at the back of the said motorcycle disembarked and shot Bayles several times. After Bayles had fallen to the ground, the said rider came closer and shot him again. The two (2) men then left the scene on board the motorcycle;

**WHEREAS**, according to news reports published on websites such as [www.karapatan.org](http://www.karapatan.org) and [www.fidh.org](http://www.fidh.org), a witness to the shooting alerted the members of the Philippine National Police (PNP) of Himamaylan City, and the latter in turn arrived at the scene of the crime and contacted the Kabanklan City PNP. A checkpoint was then set up south-bound at Kabanklan City, near the scene of the crime;

**WHEREAS**, according to several news reports published on websites such as [www.karapatan.org](http://www.karapatan.org) and [www.fidh.org](http://www.fidh.org), two (2) men carrying .45 caliber pistols were then apprehended at a checkpoint in Barangay 1, Kabanklan City. Empty shells of a similar caliber

gun were said to be found at the scene of the crime;

**WHEREAS**, the two (2) men who were arrested identified themselves as Roger Bahon and Ronnie Caurino, respectively;

**WHEREAS**, according to Clarissa Singson-Dagatan, who is part of the legal staff of KARAPATAN-Negros, said they discovered the real identities of the perpetrators because of their own investigation. The real names of the suspects were Raygine Laus and Ronnie Caurino;

**WHEREAS**, during an interview with the Kabanklan PNP at Aksyon Radyo DYEZ, both suspects confessed to being members of the 61st Infantry Brigade of the Philippine Army. Both Laus and Caurino are Private 1<sup>st</sup> Class officers of the 61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade;

**WHEREAS**, during the pre-trial hearing that was held last October 27, 2010, the two (2) suspects denied being members of the 61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade of the Philippine Army. Both the 303rd and 302nd Infantry Brigade have also denied that the two are members of the Philippine Army. However, during the plenary budget deliberations held last October 7, 2010, it was admitted in plenary that the aforementioned suspects are members of the 61<sup>st</sup> Infantry Brigade of the Philippine Army (pages 65-66, Congressional Record No. 30, Volume No. 2, dated October 7, 2010);

**WHEREAS**, there is a pressing need for the determination of the House of Representatives of the real circumstances surrounding this incident in order to bring forth those who are responsible to answer for such a heinous crime;

**WHEREFORE**, be it resolved that, the Committee on Human Rights of the House of Representatives conduct an investigation into the killing of Benjamin Bayles, and the alleged participation of the members of the Philippine Army in the said killing;

**WHEREFORE**, be it finally resolved that, the Committee on Justice of the House of Representatives come out with a Committee Report detailing the matters and findings of the said investigation.

**REP. EMMELINE Y. AGLIPAY**  
DIWA Party-List