## Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Batasan Hills, Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 890



Introduced by Honorable Representatives
ARLENE D. BROSAS (Gabriela Women's Party);
CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE, EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT and FERDINAND R. GAITE (Bayan Muna); FRANCE L. CASTRO (ACT Teachers); and SARAH JANE I. ELAGO (Kabataan)

RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE FOR THE IMMEDIATE DISMISSAL OF NATIONAL CAPITAL REGION POLICE OFFICE (NCRPO) CHIEF MAJ. GEN. DEBOLD SINAS FOR FAILING TO ADHERE TO COMMUNITY QUARANTINE PROTOCOLS AND RELEVANT LAWS AND IN LIGHT OF THE CRIMINAL AND ADMINISTRATIVE CHARGES FILED BY THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP) AGAINST HIM

WHEREAS, on May 8, 2020, National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO) Chief Major General Debold Sinas celebrated his birthday with a party inside Camp Bagong Diwa despite the strict prohibition on mass gatherings due to the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, as seen on pictures originally posted by the NCRPO Facebook page, Maj. Gen. Sinas dined together with at least 50 police personnel and guests at proximate distance and at times without observance of the proper wearing of face masks, violating enhanced community quarantine protocols;

WHEREAS, photos of Maj. Gen. Sinas' birthday celebration have gone viral across social media platforms, sparking widespread outrage and calls for the police general's removal from the NCRPO;

**WHEREAS**, the Philippine National Police (PNP) filed criminal charges against Maj. Gen. Sinas and 18 other police officers for violating Republic Act 11332 or the Mandatory Reporting of Notifiable Diseases and Health Events of Public Health Concern Act and the enhanced community quarantine guidelines in relation to the birthday celebration held on May 8, 2020;

WHEREAS, PNP chief Archie Gamboa insists that Maj. Gen. Sinas will keep his position as NCRPO chief despite the PNP's filing of criminal charges against him and amid the strong public clamor for his resignation;

WHEREAS, Maj. Gen. Sinas is also facing administrative charges of "less grave neglect of duty" and "less grave misconduct" as recommended by the PNP Internal Affairs Service;

**WHEREAS**, Maj. Gen. Sinas has a huge responsibility to diligently observe community quarantine protocols, as he exercises police jurisdiction over the National Capital Region (NCR) which currently has the highest concentration of COVID-19 cases in the country;

**WHEREAS**, the kid-gloves treatment accorded to Maj. Gen. Sinas stands in stark contrast with the harsh and punitive actions by the police against ordinary citizens who supposedly committed violations of community quarantine guidelines;

**WHEREAS**, Maj. Gen. Sinas' track record as police chief is marred with various human rights violations and grave abuse of authority, contrasting what PNP chief Police General Archie Gamboa wants to project the media in defense of the embattled NCRPO chief;

WHEREAS, cases of extrajudicial killings and mass arrests in Central Visayas notably rose during the leadership of Sinas as police director of Central Visayas' regional office (PRO-7) in Cebu City;

**WHEREAS**, Sinas served as the chief implementor of Oplan Sauron in Negros, under Memorandum Order No. 32 which placed the province of Samar, Negros, and Bicol under the hands of military, that led to the murder of at least 20 peasants;

WHEREAS, upon his appointment by President Rodrigo Duterte as NCRPO chief, series of raids of progressive organizations' offices and illegal arrests of its members ensued, including the arrest of five activist in Manila who were planted with firearms by cops, occurred;

**WHEREAS**, ten relief volunteers in Marikina City whose intention was just to give food to the hungry were arrested and detained for one night for an alleged public gathering. On the other hand, the NCRPO Chief held his extravagant birthday celebration without any restrictions;

WHEREAS, it was Maj. Gen. Sinas who insisted that the ten relief volunteers in Marikina City must be detained and charged for merely conducting a feeding program in the said city;

WHEREAS, according to Philippine National Police Chief Archie Gamboa, NCRPO Chief Sinas will remain in his position considering the COVID-19 situation while the PNP-IAS evaluate the case;

**WHEREAS**, NCRPO Chief Major General Debold Sinas is clearly responsible for the deaths and arrests of innocent people and has transgressed the law he was supposed to abide and enforce. Therefore, he lost the credibility to administer quarantine protocols and the integrity to ensure peace and order.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives expresses its sense for the immediate dismissal of NCRPO chief Maj. Gen. Debold Sinas from his post for failing to adhere to the community quarantine protocols and relevant laws and in light of the criminal and administrative charges filed by the Philippine National Police (PNP) against him.

ARLENE D/BROSAS Gabriela Women's Party

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