Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Queson City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 195



Introduced by HON. LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.

RESOLUTION

URGING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE OCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY OF THE WORKERS OF THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY IN LIGHT OF THE DEATH OF VETERAN ACTOR EDDIE GARCIA

WHEREAS, the 1987 Constitution affirms labor as a primary social economic force and shall afford full protection to labor, local or overseas;

WHEREAS, the Labor Code mandates that every employer shall keep in his establishment such first-aid medicines and equipment as the nature and conditions of work may require, in accordance with such regulations as the Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) shall prescribe;

WHEREAS, veteran actor Eduardo Verchez Garcia (screen name Eddie Garcia) tipped on a cable wire and fell face down while shooting the new teleserye Rosa Agimat of the GMA Network, Inc.;

WHEREAS, investigations revealed that there was no first-aid treatment provided or a medical team available within the vicinity of the shooting location;

WHEREAS, actor Eddie Garcia was rushed to Mary Johnston Hospital then transferred to the Makati Medical Center due to the unavailability of competent and responsive medical attention;

WHEREAS, Eddie Garcia suffered a cervical fracture which allegedly caused his untimely death 12 days into comatose;

WHEREAS, fracture is generally perceived in the health industry to increase an elderly person's risk of death;

WHEREAS, the absence of first aid treatment and a medical team within the vicinity of the shooting location is contrary to the clear mandate of the Labor Code and Republic Act No. 11058 or the Act Strengthening Compliance with Occupational Safety and Health Hazards and Providing Penalties for Violations Thereof;

WHEREAS, the death of one employee in the performance of his duties is one death too many;

WHEREAS, employers must be reminded of the State's directive that they strictly abide by all existing labor laws in place, especially those that uphold the health and safety of Filipino workers;

WHEREAS, the House of Representatives seeks to look into the alleged non-compliance of the employer to determine how the existing laws could be amended or better enforced to ensure that no injury or death shall thereafter occur due to a party's gross negligence;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives to urge the House Committee on Labor and Employment to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the ocupational health and safety of the workers of the entertainment industry in light of the death of veteran actor Eddie Garcia.

ADOPTED.

LUIS RAYMUND "LRAY" F. VILLAFUERTE, JR.