

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

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 944

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INTRODUCED BY REP. BIENVENIDO “BENNY” M. ABANTE, JR.,  
REP. JANETTE GARIN, REP. CARLOS ISAGANI ZARATE, REP. JOSE  
CHRISTOPHER “KIT” BELMONTE, REP. BAYANI FERNANDO, REP.  
JOSE “BONITO” SINGSON, REP. SHAREE ANN TAN, REP. JOSEPH  
STEPHEN “CARAPS” PADUANO, REP. STELLA LUZ QUIMBO, REP.  
FRANCE CASTRO, REP. GABRIEL BORDADO, JR., REP. ARNOLFO  
“ARNIE” TEVES, JR., REP. ARGEL JOSEPH CABATBAT, REP. ALEX  
“AA” ADVINCULA, REP. ISAGANI AMATONG, REP. ARLENE  
BROSAS, REP. ANGELICA NATASHA CO, REP. EUFEMIA “KA  
FEMIA” CULLAMAT, REP. SERGIO DAGOOC, REP. SARAH JANE  
ELAGO, REP. LAWRENCE “LAW” FORTUN, REP. FERDINAND  
GAITE, REP. GODOFREDO GUYA, REP. IRENE GAY SAULOG, REP.  
MA. VICTORIA UMALI

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**RESOLUTION**  
**EXPRESSING THE MINORITY BLOC OPPOSITION TO THE SWIFT**  
**PASSAGE OF THE ‘ANTI-TERRORISM BILL ACT OF 2020 OR HOUSE**  
**BILL NO. 6875 WITHOUT SUFFICIENT TIME TO INTELLIGENTLY**  
**DELIBERATE ON SERIOUS PENAL PROVISIONS AND ITS GRAVE**  
**IMPLICATIONS**

**WHEREAS**, House Bill No. 6875 entitled “An Act to Prohibit and Penalize Terrorism, Thereby Repealing Republic Act No. 9372, Otherwise Known as the Human Security Act of 2007” was submitted to the Committee on Public Order and Safety and the Committee on National Defense and Security only on **May 30, 2020**, and it is now calendared for Second Reading today, **June 2, 2020**;

**WHEREAS**, we still have R.A. No. 1016 (Terrorism Financing Prevention and Suppression Act of 2012) hence, there is no need to rush the passage of this Bill which, as stated, was submitted to the Committee on Public Order and Safety and the Committee on National Defense and Security only on **May 30, 2020** and it is now calendared for Second Reading today, **June 2, 2020**.

**WHEREAS**, the Bill which consists of forty (40) pages needs a deep and wide study as it is a penal law and the same strikes not only on a person's liberty but on his very life, hence, it is imperative that all the members of the House should be given sufficient time to study the same;

**WHEREAS**, considering just few provisions of the Bill would already show serious problems as follows:

1] *Sec. 3(l)* – **Terrorist** shall refer to any natural person who commits any of the acts defined and penalized under Sections 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11 and 10 of the Act.

2] *Sec. 4. Terrorism.* xxx, **terrorism** is committed by any person who  
xxx –

(a) Engages in acts intended to cause death or serious bodily injury *to any person, or endangers a person's life.*

(b) Engages in acts intended to cause extensive damage or destruction to a government or public facility, public place or private property;

(c) xxx.

(d) xxx.

(e) xxx.

**Questions:**

i. Are not the acts under Sec. 4(a) and 4(b) considered crimes under the present Revised Penal Code?

ii. On the basis of the wordings of Sec. 4(a), if a father while walking along a lonely road chanced upon the person who raped his wife or killed his son or robbed him of his bicycle, picked up a piece of wood and hit him intentionally on his head causing his instantaneous death –

**A.** Would the father be considered a **terrorist** [under Sec. 3(l)] and punished as such?

**B.** Would the father be considered to have committed **terrorism**?



- C. What if the father merely threatened that person, would he be held liable for **'Threat to Commit Terrorism'** under **Sec. 5** which provides that *"Any person who shall threaten to commit any of the acts mentioned in Section 4 shall suffer the penalty of imprisonment of twelve (12) years."*
- D. Suppose the father just proceeded home and talked with his friends and they all agreed to kill that person, would they be held liable and punished for **Conspiracy to Commit Terrorism** under Section 7?

**WHEREAS**, even in the *'designation of persons as terrorist'* the Bill does not expressly provide for the observance and protection of the Constitutional and Procedural rights to Due Process;

**WHEREAS**, our economy and economic forces are now limping because of the present pandemic, hence, if there is any national problem that now needs immediate action, it is this COVID-19;

**WHEREAS**, while society must protect itself, and the government has the obligation to protect itself and its people from those who, not only for gain but even to topple the government and/or the duly constituted authorities, commit terroristic acts and activities and other heinous crime, thus exhibiting their depravity;

**WHEREAS**, while these kinds of people who do not care at all taking precious and innocent lives, damaging property including the very economy of nations just to serve their evil and ulterior motives and purposes, should be branded with the stigma of infamy, they being the shame of a race, the ignominy of a people, and the disgrace of human kind;

**WHEREAS**, the passage of this kind of legislative measure cannot, as it should not, disregard basic requirements and time-honored procedures and processes in the passage of laws, especially in the case of penal laws, for sufficient intelligent study and discussions.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the House Minority to give all the members of the House sufficient time to study this Bill before calendaring it on Second Reading.

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Adopted,

  
BIENVENIDO "BENNY" M. ABANTE, JR.

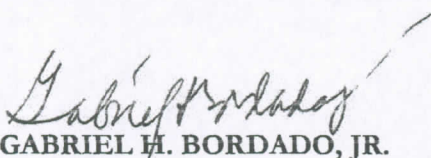
  
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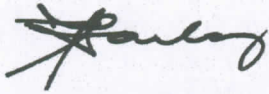
  
SERGIO C. DAGOOC

  
SARAH JANE I. ELAGO

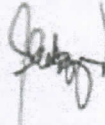
  
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