

*Republic of the Philippines*  
**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
Quezon City

**EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 384**



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Introduced by: Hon. Bienvenido "Benny" Mirando Abante, Jr.

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**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN THE EXERCISE OF ITS OVERSIGHT FUNCTION AND IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE DISBURSEMENT OF THE BOUNTY INTENDED FOR WITNESSES FOR THE PROSECUTION, IN RELATION TO THE MURDER OF HON. RODEL BATOCABE**

**WHEREAS**, on 22 December 2018, unidentified gunmen, mercilessly, without conscience, murdered our colleague, Hon. Rodel Batocabe. Other casualties in the assault were Hon. Batocabe's aid, who was also killed, and many more were injured;

**WHEREAS**, in order to assist the speedy prosecution of those who were behind the murder of Hon. Batocabe, several personalities and institutions raised a bounty totaling to thirty five million (P35,000,000.00), twenty million (P20,000,000.00) of which came from the Office of the President, thirteen million (P13,000,000.00) from the House of Representatives, 17<sup>th</sup> Congress, and another two million (P2,000,000.00) from the Province of Albay. This bounty was intended to incentivize witnesses to come forward and assist in the prosecution of those behind the murder and to cover the legal fees of lawyers engaged to prosecute the case. More importantly, the bounty was intended to ensure the safety of those who would come forward and testify against the assailants and the masterminds;

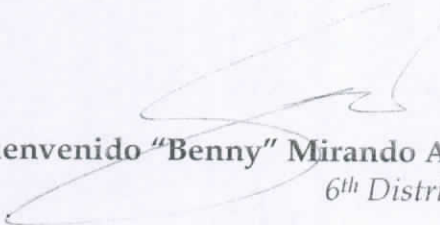
**WHEREAS**, the P35,000,000.00 bounty was turned over to the Philippine National Police for safekeeping and disbursement to qualified witnesses;

**WHEREAS**, disturbing information have reached the undersigned that several witnesses have not received their share in the bounty and are now in fear for lack of financial capacity to secure themselves and their families against bodily harm;

**WHEREAS**, witnesses have already expressed their reluctance to testify for alleged failure to deliver the bounties which were promised to them;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved by the House of Representatives to direct the appropriate committee to conduct an investigation, in the exercise of its oversight function and in aid of legislation, on the disbursement of the bounty intended for witnesses for the prosecution, in relation to the murder of Hon. Rodel Batocabe.

*Adopted,*



**Bienvenido "Benny" Mirando Abante, Jr.**  
6<sup>th</sup> District, Manila

Jay Belmont

Kit Belmont  
6th District  
D.C.

PRODISSYANO  
AKO  
BANTAY LUPAT

SENATOR C. OAGAC / RECD

GOODFREEDOM DAY

Wichita Nigmar, PBA PL

Ako Padayon PL

Pidi Banzar 9

W. D. Sinner.

9, 1st District 2  
Cante

Carlos I.T. Zarate

France Cufo

Arlene Brosen

Bayan Muna

ALT Teachers party-list

Gabrida Women's Party

Samir Itay  
Eusebia Cuyamant

KABATAAN PL

Alfredo Garbina Jr.

Ako

Bayan Muna Party-list

Bicol PL