

1 [Support for House Resolution No. 233 - Condemning Duterte’s Drug War - Urging
2 Congressional Hearing]

3 **Resolution supporting United States House Resolution No. 233, authored by**
4 **Congresswoman Jackie Speier, condemning the Government of the Philippines for its**
5 **role in state-sanctioned extrajudicial killings by police and for its continued detention**
6 **of Senator Leila de Lima, condemning the Philippine President Rodrigo Duterte’s drug**
7 **war that has taken the lives of over 29,000 Filipinos, and urging San Francisco’s**
8 **Federal representatives to support a congressional hearing on the consequences of**
9 **U.S. tax dollars being used to fund these activities, and advocating for the U.S. to cut**
10 **aid to the Duterte regime.**

11
12 WHEREAS, San Francisco is home and continues to be the port of entry to a
13 significant immigrant Filipino community with a population of 36,479 individuals many of whom
14 continue to support family and maintain close ties with the Philippines; and

15 WHEREAS, There is a long history of solidarity and intersectionality between the
16 Filipino community and many San Francisco groups and constituencies including labor, faith-
17 based, and school-based groups, and many San Franciscans are either directly impacted or
18 deeply concerned about the plight of those in the Philippines who are victims of the
19 government’s drug war and martial law in Mindanao; and

20 WHEREAS, The Trump administration supports the strong-arm rule of Philippine
21 President Duterte, whose brutal Drug War and other anti-people campaigns have taken the
22 lives of over 29,000 urban poor, workers, indigenous and environmental activists, human
23 rights defenders, religious leaders, and peace advocates; and

24 WHEREAS, Philippine government agencies themselves report 4,948 suspected drug
25 users and dealers including 60 children died during police operations from July 1, 2016, to

1 September 30, 2018, and, according to the Human Rights watch, the Philippine National
2 Police (PNP) have reported that a total of 22,983 deaths have been classified as “homicides
3 under investigation,” since the “war on drugs” began; and

4 WHEREAS, As of November 2018, the Alliance for Advancement of People’s Rights
5 also known as Karapatan has documented 216 extrajudicial political killings, 378 victims of
6 frustrated political killings, 100 victims of torture, around 2,000 victims of illegal arrests, over
7 70,000 victims of threats and harassments, and nearly half a million internal refugees under
8 the Duterte administration; and

9 WHEREAS, More than 16 mayors and vice mayors have been killed since President
10 Duterte took office, and Duterte has blatantly spoken in press conferences advocating for the
11 killing of Catholic bishops during a period when three Catholic priests were assassinated; and

12 WHEREAS, Labor leaders and legislators have also been amongst those attacked by
13 the administration, with 30 labor leaders killed, 3 labor leaders being held as political
14 prisoners, and Senator Leila De Lima who has been a staunch critic of the drug war killings
15 has been detained for over two years; and

16 WHEREAS, Maria Ressa, a U.S.-born Filipina journalist and one of Time magazine’s
17 persons of the year in 2018, has been continually harassed and arrested for her continued
18 critical reporting on Duterte’s drug war and the breakdown of democracy in the Philippines,
19 and who recently met with Facebook and Twitter regarding the use of their platforms by the
20 Duterte regime to spread misinformation and harass critics; and

21 WHEREAS, The language for Foreign Military Financing to the Armed Forces
22 Philippines (AFP) in the House Appropriations Bill of 2019 states that “Extra-judicial killings in
23 the Philippines, including those committed in the conduct of the anti-drug campaign, erode
24 confidence in the Government of the Philippines’ commitment to human rights, due process,
25 and the rule of law”; and

1 WHEREAS, The U.S. government allocates money to the AFP and PNP through
2 Appropriations for the Department of State, and Foreign Operations and Related Programs,
3 and the current appropriations in the amount of \$184.5 million go to the Philippine military;
4 and

5 WHEREAS, In 2007, Senator Barbara Boxer sponsored a congressional hearing which
6 successfully pressured the Gloria Macapagal Arroyo administration to stop the killing of
7 activists and organizers and laid the basis for successfully restricting U.S. aid to the
8 Philippines until certain human rights conditions were met; and

9 WHEREAS, The San Francisco Committee for Human Rights in the Philippines
10 (SFCHRP) along with the Malaya (Free) Movement are supporting the International Coalition
11 for Human Rights in the Philippines' (ICHRP) pressure campaign for national divestment of
12 U.S. military aid to the AFP and PNP; and

13 WHEREAS, Congresswoman Jackie Speier has sponsored House Resolution No. 233
14 condemning the Government of the Philippines for its role in state-sanctioned extrajudicial
15 killings by police and other armed individuals as part of the "War on Drugs" and for its
16 continued detention of Senator Leila de Lima on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
17 in File No. 190423, and the Senate Resolution No. 142 sponsored by Senator Edward Markey
18 also urges the Government of the Philippines to guarantee the right to the freedom of the
19 press and to drop all the charges against Maria Ressa and Rappler on file with the Clerk of
20 the Board of Supervisors in File No. 190423; and

21 WHEREAS, On April 6th-8th San Francisco faith and community leaders participated in
22 the Malaya Summit for Human Rights in the Philippines held in Washington D.C. and was part
23 of the effort to meet with over 100 congressional offices on this campaign; and

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1 WHEREAS, On April 8, 2019, the San Francisco Labor Council unanimously adopted a
2 Resolution to support this campaign on file with the Clerk of the Board of Supervisors in File
3 No. 190423; therefore, be it

4 RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors condemns President Duterte’s drug war
5 that has taken thousands of lives without due process; and, be it

6 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors also adds their
7 support to the SFCHRP- Malaya Movement campaign and in doing so calls on the United
8 States Department of Defense to divest from the Duterte administration and the Philippine
9 military and police; and, be it

10 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors supports Congresswoman
11 Jackie Speier’s House Resolution No. 233 and Senate Resolution No. 142 sponsored by
12 Senator Edward Markey; and, be it

13 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Board of Supervisors urges our San
14 Francisco representatives Speaker Nancy Pelosi, U.S. Senator Kamala Harris, U.S. Senator
15 Feinstein, and Congress member Jackie Speier to support a congressional hearing on the
16 consequences of U.S. tax dollars going to the Philippine military and police and to champion
17 cutting U.S. military aid to the Duterte regime; and, be it

18 FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Board of Supervisors direct the clerk of the Board to
19 send a copy of this Resolution to the offices of San Francisco representatives Speaker Nancy
20 Pelosi, U.S. Senator Kamala Harris, U.S. Senator Diane Feinstein, and Congresswoman
21 Jackie Speier.