

Resolution Calling for the Passage of AB -3070, Juries Peremptory Challenges

Co-Sponsors: Berry, Mahogany, Mano, Ibáñez, Baraka, Williams, Moliga, Chen, Ting, LaCroix, Lovett, Tung, Wiener, Campos, Cohen, Loftus, Morales, Gallotta, Mandelman, Moliga.

WHEREAS, the Sixth Amendment of the United States constitution states that “the accused shall enjoy the right to a speedy and public trial, by an impartial jury”.

WHEREAS, it has been illegal for more than a century to remove a person from a jury because of their race, but Black and Brown people continue to be excluded from jury service because of their race, especially in serious criminal trials and death penalty cases.

WHEREAS, researchers at U.C. Berkeley conducted an empirical study examining nearly 700 cases decided by the California Courts of Appeal from 2006 through 2018. They found that prosecutors across California use peremptory strikes to disproportionately keep Black and Latino citizens off juries. The data showed that prosecutors used their peremptory strikes to remove Black jurors in nearly 72% of cases. They struck Latino jurors in about 28% of the cases, Asian American jurors in less than 3.5%, and white jurors in only 0.5%.

BE IT RESOLVED, that the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee urges Governor Gavin Newsom to sign AB-3070, Juries Peremptory Challenges

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that copies of this resolution be sent to Governor Newsom.

PROPOUNDED BY: Gloria Berry

Adopted: (Date 09/23/2020) By the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee

ADDENDUM: [AB 3070, Weber. Juries: peremptory challenges](#)

Member Wiener moves to approve resolution by acclamation, seconded by Member Loftus.

***Motion approved,
with abstentions from Members Feinstein and Kounalakis.***

Resolution in support of the Philippine Human Rights Act to Suspend Funding for Police or Military Assistance to the Philippines

Co-Sponsors: Mahogany, Avalos, Mar, Gallotta, LaCroix, Williams, Berry, Lovett, Tung, Moliga, Li, Morales, Campos, Haney, Dufty, Baraka, Mandelman, Chen, Speier.

WHEREAS, Philippine President Duterte has presided over the extrajudicial killings of tens of thousands of residents and has also assassinated indigenous leaders, journalists, land defenders, and other critics of his administration. Most of these killings are carried out by the Philippine National Police and the Armed Forces of the Philippines, such as in the assassination attempt against Brandon Lee, a San Francisco born US national, who was shot in the back by state security forces and is now paralyzed from the chest down; and

WHEREAS, The climate of impunity has only worsened during the COVID-19 pandemic, which Duterte is using to expand his executive powers. Freedom of speech and attacks against the press have escalated with the conviction of Rappler CEO Maria Ressa and the shut down of the largest TV broadcaster and news network in the country. On September 7th, 2020, Duterte trumped the local courts by granting executive pardon and releasing the U.S. Marine convicted of brutally killing Jennifer Laude, a transgender Filipina in 2014; and

WHEREAS, The Trump administration has provided hundreds of millions of dollars of funding for the Philippine military and police and is currently pushing a two billion dollar arms deal which will fuel more violence, especially with Duterte's Anti-Terror Law (ATL) in full effect. Upon passage of the ATL, there have been weekly killings of peace advocates and indigenous leaders, including the recent murder of a Manobo tribal leader Bae Merlin Ansabo Celis who, along with her daughter, was mutilated and killed. It is imperative that we put an end to the financing of such atrocities through U.S. tax dollars; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED that the San Francisco Democratic Party endorses the introduction and passage of the Philippine Human Rights Act which would block U.S. funding for police or military assistance to the Philippines, including equipment and training, until such time as human rights conditions are met, including: (1) investigating and prosecuting members of the military and police forces who are credibly found to have violated human rights; (2) withdrawing the military from domestic policy; (3) establishing protections of the rights of trade unionists, journalists, human right defenders, indigenous persons, small-farmers, LGBTI activists, and critics of the government; (4) taking steps to guarantee a judicial system that is capable of investigating, prosecuting, and bringing to justice members of the police and military who have committed human rights abuses; and (5) Fully complying with any and all audits or investigations regarding the improper use of security aid; and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Executive Director of the San Francisco Democratic Party, no longer than 30 days after the passage of this resolution, shall transmit copies of this Resolution to the offices of House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, U.S. House Representative Jackie Speier, and Senators Dianne Feinstein and Kamala Harris as well as Representative Susan Wild, the sponsor of the Philippine Human Rights Act.

PROPOUNDED BY: Honey Mahogany

Adopted: (Date 09/23/2020) By the San Francisco Democratic County Central Committee

Motion by Member Williams to approve by acclamation, seconded by Member Wiener.

**Motion approved,
with abstentions from Members Pelosi, Kounalakis, Ma and Feinstein.**

Addendum:

Endorsing Organizations: The Malaya Movement, AFL-CIO, International Coalition for Human Rights in the Philippines, Communication Workers of America, SEIU, Teamsters, American Federation of Teachers United Church of Christ - Global Ministries, United Methodist Church - General Board of Church & Society, Migrante USA, Gabriela USA, Anakbayan USA, Bayan-USA, Franciscan Network on Migration, Pax Christi New Jersey, Kabataan Alliance, National Alliance for Filipino Concerns, Ecumenical Advocacy Network on the Philippines

Susan Wild staff person: Zach Fowler (Zach.Fowler@mail.house.gov).