

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



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

144

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. _____

Introduced by
ACT Teachers Party-List Rep. FRANCE L. CASTRO,
BAYAN MUNA Party-List Rep. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE,
Rep. FERDINAND GAITE and Rep. EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT,
GABRIELA Women's Party Rep. ARLENE D. BROSAS,
and KABATAAN Party-List Rep. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO

RESOLUTION
STRONGLY CONDEMNING AND CALLING FOR AN URGENT INVESTIGATION IN AID
OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE ATTACKS AGAINST LUMAD SCHOOLS, STUDENTS,
TEACHERS, AND ADVOCATES IN SOUTHERN MINDANAO FROM JULY 2016 TO JULY
2017

WHEREAS, the Save our Schools (SOS) Network, a group of child rights advocates, organizations, and various stakeholders, recently released a partial tally of 68 incidents of human rights violations (HRVs) and attacks against indigenous peoples (IPs) and Lumad schools from July 2016 to July 18, 2017 in the Southern Mindanao Region;

WHEREAS, this report means that attacks against community schools and learning centers in Lumad areas, their teachers, students, and supporters have been continuing, at the rate of at least one incident per week, even under the Duterte administration;

WHEREAS, the form of attacks include threat, harassment, intimidation, vilification, red-tagging, and surveillance (28 cases); military encampment in schools and other public places and use of civilians as shields (17 cases); extrajudicial killings (EJKs) (6 cases); frustrated EJKs or indiscriminate firing (5 cases); destruction and divestment of school property (4 cases); trumped-up charges, illegal or arbitrary arrest and

detention (4 cases); enforced disappearance (1 case); closure or threat of closure of school (1 case); torture (1 case); and forced evacuation (1 case);

WHEREAS, a total of 89 schools and 2,624 students were affected by the said attacks;

WHEREAS, on July 7, 2016, 3 teachers and 46 students of Mindanao Interfaith Services Foundation, Inc. (MISFI) Academy, a service institution for the Mindanao poor in Lumad, Moro, and lowland Christian communities, experienced threat, harassment, and vilification perpetrated by Boris Cayuga and 33 elements of Alamara at Sitio Mangani and Sitio Gatungon, Brgy. Tapak, Paquibato District, Davao City;

WHEREAS, on July 15, suspected private goons of Apollo Quiboloy and elements of the 84th IBPA killed school leader Hermie Alegre and wounded Danny Diarog, tribal chief and member of the Parents, Teachers and Community Association (PTCA) of the Salugpongan Ta'Tanu Igkanogon Community Learning Center, Inc. (STTICLCI) in Brgy. Tagakpan, Tugbok District, Davao City;

WHEREAS, on July 24, Ronnie Garcia, the Executive Director of STTICLCI was surveilled, threatened, harassed, and intimidated by suspected military and police intelligence at Davao Regional Hospital, Tagum City;

WHEREAS, on August 2016 up to February 10, 2017, the 68th IBPA encamped 10 meters away from the Tibucag Primary School at Sitio Tibucag, Brgy. Dagohoy, Talaingod, Davao del Norte;

WHEREAS, on August 14, Jessebelle E. Sanchez, PTCA of STTICLCI, was extrajudicially killed by suspected agents of 68th IBPA at Sitio Nanaga, Brgy. Sto. Nino, Talaingod, Davao del Norte;

WHEREAS, on August 14 and September 8, Ronnie Garcia was again surveilled and threatened by suspected military intelligence at the Rural Missionaries of the Philippines (RMP) Office, Buhangin, Davao City;

WHEREAS, on August 19, Amelia Pond, teacher and curriculum development researcher of STTICLCI and Regional Director of RMP, was illegally arrested and detained by the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group at Cebu City;

WHEREAS, from August to September at Sitio Lubog, Brgy. Tibagon, Pantukan, Compostela Valley Province, SOS Network reported the encampment by 16 elements of the 66th IPA of public places, and threatened, harassed, and intimidated teachers;

WHEREAS, from August 20 to 23, the STTICLC school in Sitio Bongloy, Brgy. Pagsabangan, New Bataan, Compostela Valley was encamped by 16 elements of the 66th IPA, affecting 18 students and 3 teachers;

WHEREAS, from August 20 up to the present, another STTICLC school at Purok 4B, Brgy. Mangayon, Compostela was indiscriminately fired at and then encamped by 30 elements of the 66th IBPA, and threatened and intimidated 82 students and 8 teachers;

WHEREAS, on August 30, a school managed by the Mindanao Interfaith Services Foundation, Inc. (MISFI) Academy at Sitio Danggayon, Brgy. Casoon, Monkayo, Compostela Valley was used by the military under the 25th IB and tagged as "NPA school," affecting 44 students and 3 teachers;

WHEREAS, on September 9, 14, and 22, Ronnie Garcia was again surveilled and threatened by suspected military intelligence at the STTICLC Training Center, Tagum City, Davao del Norte;

WHEREAS, on September 15, Roylan Licayan, a teacher at the STTICLC, was threatened and attempted to be killed by a certain "Tinong," a member of Alamara, and two soldiers of 68th IB at Sitio Indangan, Brgy. Sto Niño, Talaingod, Davao del Norte;

WHEREAS, on September 17, the barangay hall and the Magcagong Elementary School was encamped by 15 elements of 66th IBPA at Brgy. Magcagong, Maragusan, Compostela Valley Province;

WHEREAS, on September 25, the Del Monte Elementary School at Brgy. Del Monte, Veruela, Agusan del Sur Province was encamped by the 26th IBPA, Regional Mobile Group and the Bagani paramilitary;

WHEREAS, on September 26, MariaLou Lambo, coordinator of the STTICLC, was tailed by two suspected military agents on a motorcycle from a bus terminal in Tagum City to Maa, Davao City, then to Calinan, all the way to Sitio Kahusayan;

WHEREAS, from November 4 to 5, members of the 84th IB encamped in a school put up and managed by MISFI in Sitio Licuyan, Brgy. Tambobong, Baguio District, Davao City;

WHEREAS, on November 10, 8 elements of the 66th IB headed by Lt. Patrick Serano encamped at the STTICLC school in Sitio Puting Bato, Brgy. Ngan, Compostela, affecting 38 students and 2 teachers;

WHEREAS, between December 8, 2016 to January 1, 2017, suspected military and paramilitary elements destroyed school properties of the STTICLC at Spur 2, Brgy. Ngan, Compostela, affecting 39 students and 5 teachers;

WHEREAS, on January 2, 49 students and 6 teachers of Mindanao Community Agricultural School Foundation Inc. (MCASFI) at Brgy. Busco, Quezon, Bukidnon were vilified and harassed by a suspected military agent;

WHEREAS, on the first week of January, 3 teachers of MISFI were threatened and harassed by a certain "Boris," a member of the Alamara at Sitio Licuyan, Barangay Tambobong, Baguio District, Davao City;

WHEREAS, on February 4, the 68th IB and the Alamara paramilitary encamped near the STTICLCI school at Sitio Tibucag, Dagohoy, Talaingod, Davao del Norte, affecting 30 students and 4 teachers;

WHEREAS, on February 6, suspected military agents shot Emelito Rotimas, chairman of Purok 6, Brgy. Lapu-Lapu, Maco, Compostela Valley, killing him in front of 5 students. Rotimas was among those who persevered in its establishment of Community Technical College of Southern Mindanao (CTCSM), the first and only school offering early childhood education, elementary, primary, high school and college level academic programs to Lumad and poor peasant farming families throughout Mindanao;

WHEREAS, on February 11, the Alamara paramilitary encamped at several public places at Sitio Bugni, Brgy. Palma Gil, Talaingod, Davao del Norte, threatening, harassing, and intimidating the residents;

WHEREAS, from February 11 to 12, the 68th IBPA encamped at the STTICLC school at Sitio Dulyan, Brgy. Palma Gil, Talaingod, affecting 98 students and 5 teachers;

WHEREAS, on February 12, Joven Salangani of the Alamara threatened and harassed the 31 delegates of the National Medical and Solidarity Mission at Sitio Camaca, Brgy. Palma Gil;

WHEREAS, on February 13, suspected military intelligence agents threatened, harassed, and surveilled Ronnie Garcia, Ricky Balilid, Charlene Sawit, and Jocelyn Natividad of the STTICLC and MISFI at the CTCSM Compound at Brgy. Lapu-Lapu, Maco to Tagum City;

WHEREAS, on February 14, 2 teachers and 38 students of STTICLCI were threatened, harassed, and intimidated by 37 elements of paramilitary group Alamara and 3 regular soldiers at KM 30, Dagohoy, Talaingod;

WHEREAS, on February 14 at Sitio Uduan, Brgy. Manurigao, New Bataan, Compostela Valley, the 66th IBPA threatened and harassed a school staff of the STTICLCI, blocking food and materials meant for the school;

WHEREAS, on February 18, the Bagani paramilitary red-tagged, threatened, and harassed 168 students and 9 teachers and staff of Father Fausto Tentorio Memorial School Inc. (FFTMSI) at Sitio Patagan, Brgy. Mahungcog, Magpet, North Cotabato Province;

WHEREAS, from February 18 to 19, 98 students and 5 teachers of STTICLCI in Dulyan, Palma Gil, Talaingod, Davao del Norte were victims of encampment by the paramilitary Alamara and 68th IBPA;

WHEREAS, on February 18-19, the paramilitary Alamara and 68th IBPA encamped on the STTICLCI school at Dulyan, Palma Gil, affecting 98 students and 5 teachers;

WHEREAS, from February 19 to 20, 2 teachers and 38 students of STTICLCI at Sitio Km 30, Brgy. Dagohoy, Talaingod were threatened, harassed, and intimidated by 60 members of the paramilitary group Alamara headed by Ongging Masaloon and unaccounted number of elements from 68th IBPA;

WHEREAS, from February 20 to 21, 39 students and 3 teachers of STTICLCI at Nasilaban, Palma Gil, Talaingod were victims of military encampment by the 15 elements of paramilitary group Alamara and 2 military personnel from 68th IBPA;

WHEREAS, on February 22, 48 students, 5 teachers and 1 administrator of Assumption Interfaith Academy Foundation, Inc. (AIAFI) were victims of threat, harassment and intimidation by an unaccounted number of military forces;

WHEREAS, on March 2 at Brgy. Osmeña, Compostela, Compostela Valley Province, Ramon Pesadilla, Sr. and Leonila Pesadilla were killed and KG Pesadilla, 5 years old, was wounded by four unnamed assailants suspected to be military agents;

WHEREAS, on March 24, 2017, Ronnie Garcia again experienced threat, harassment and intimidation by suspected military agents at Brgy. Sto. Niño, Talaingod, Davao del Norte;

WHEREAS, on April 13, Maui Bago, a grade 11 student of STTICLCI was arrested arbitrarily, detained and tortured by the 60th IBPA at Sitio Natulinan, Brgy. Palma Gil, Talaingod;

WHEREAS, on May 27, enforced disappearance of Jerwin Tabag, a former student of STTICLC, at the hands of the 67th IB, was recorded at Poblacion Baganga, Davao Oriental;

WHEREAS, on May 30 at Bagangan, Baganga, Davao Oriental, JP Marson Luces, a teacher of MISFI, experienced threat, harassment and intimidation by the 67th IB;

WHEREAS, on May 31 in Mascareg, Brgy. Anitapan, Mabini, Compostela Valley Province, Jessie Cabesa, a leader of STTICLC, was killed by two operatives of the 46th IB;

WHEREAS, on June 5, 5 students of MISFI experienced grave threat, harassment and intimidation from three Alamara headed by Ongging Masaloon at Sitio Patel, Brgy. Gupitan, Kapalong, Davao del Norte;

WHEREAS, on June 7, Roylan Licayan and Jennifer Villaflor, both teachers of STTICLC and 43 students were victims of the 60th IB when the military forces encamped at the school and destroyed the school's water system at Sitio Kamingawan, Brgy. Palma Gil, Talaingod;

WHEREAS, on June 8, PTCA President Lorena Mandacawan of STTICLC was coerced and forced by the 60th IB to sign a waiver to allow the military to establish a camp in Sitio Dulyan, Brgy. Palma Gil, Talaingod;

WHEREAS, on June 8, Lando Dalin, a student of STTICLC, experienced threat, harassment and intimidation by PFC Salinas, PFC Daganen and 2 others at Sitio Dulyan, Brgy. Palma Gil, Talaingod;

WHEREAS, on June 2017, a member of the PTCA of STTICLC was arrested arbitrarily, detained and experienced threat, harassment and intimidation from the 28th IB at Magcagong, Maragusan, Compostela Valley Province;

WHEREAS, on June 16, more than 20 students of MISFI experienced threat, harassment, intimidation, coercion and hamletting by two members of Alamara namely Dungkog Tumagsa and Awrit Tumagsa at Sitio Luno-luno, Brgy. Gupitan, Kapalong, Davao del Norte;

WHEREAS, on June 20, Ramel Miguel, Marjun Manglingkaw (Grade 11 student), 60 other students, 9 elementary teachers and 3 high school teachers of STTICLC experienced indiscriminate firing, frustrated killing, destruction of school properties, threat, harassment and intimidation by Rodel Butanlog (CAFGU and former Alamara member) at Sitio Nasilaban, Brgy. Palma Gil, Talaingod;

WHEREAS, on June 24, 7 teachers, 60 students of STTICLC and estimated 200 public school students experienced indiscriminate firing, threat, harassment and intimidation, use of the school for military purposes by suspected CAFGU and Alamara and 72nd IB members at Sitio Nasilaban, Brgy. Palma Gil, Talaingod, Davao del Norte;

WHEREAS, on June 24, 32 students of MISFI experienced forcible evacuation at Sitio Muling, Brgy. Gupitan, Kapalong, Davao del Norte caused by the Alamara and the 60th IBPA;

WHEREAS, on June 25, seven teachers and 60 students of STTICLC experienced indiscriminate firing, threat, harassment and intimidation by suspected CAFGU, Alamara and 72nd IBPA at Sitio Nasilaban, Brgy. Palma Gil, Talaingod;

WHEREAS, on July 2, 5 victims which include 4 PTCA members of STTICLC, namely, Jona Rose Baugto, Madrid, Estanislao Talledo, Rolando Segovia, and Alexir Mata were illegally arrested and detained, threatened, harassed and intimidated, and charged with malicious trumped-up charges by the 15 elements of 66th IBPA at Brgy. Mangayon, Compostela, Compostela Valley Province;

WHEREAS, these grave human rights violations are the consequences of military operations under the counter-insurgency program Oplan Kapayapaan and the Mindanao-wide martial law;

WHEREAS, after the declaration of martial law, travel to schools and learning centers was made more difficult after stricter military checkpoints were put up, requiring parents, teachers, students, and visitors to the Lumad schools to show identification cards or write their names in logbooks. Even food, medicine, and other necessities meant for schools are being blocked by the military;

WHEREAS, the heightened military operations, including aerial bombardments which do not discriminate legitimate military targets from non-combatants and civilian populations, force entire Lumad communities to evacuate and be internally displaced, their usual daily lives and activities disrupted;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives condemn in the strongest terms the continuing attacks against Lumad schools in Southern Mindanao from July 2016 to July 2017.

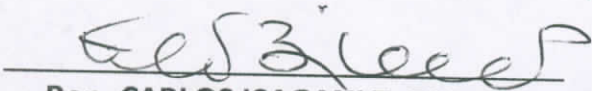
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the House Committees on Human Rights and Basic Education and Culture investigate in aid of legislation, these reported incidents of attacks on Lumad schools.

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED, that the House call on President Rodrigo Duterte to order the Armed Forces of the Philippines to stop these attacks, to immediately pull all military forces out of civilian communities, and to hold all responsible persons accountable for their atrocities.


Adopted,



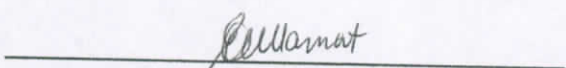
Rep. FRANCE L. CASTRO
ACT Teachers Party-List



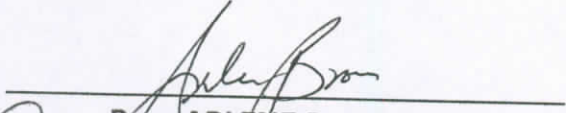
Rep. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE
BAYAN MUNA Party-List



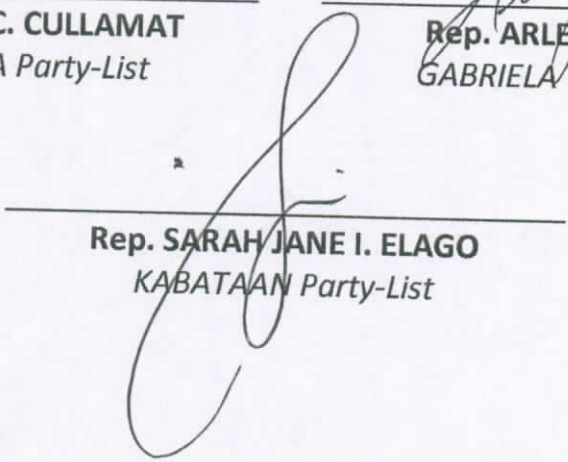
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