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

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

737 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

URGING THE CONGRESS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE LEGALITY OF THE KABATAAN KONTRA DROGA AT TERORISMO (KKDAT) DIALOGUES, LECTURES, AND SEMINARS OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE IN VARIOUS HIGH SCHOOLS AND VIOLATING THE 'SAFE SCHOOLS PRINCIPLE'

WHEREAS, launched in 2019, Kabataan Kontra Droga at Terorismo (KKDAT) is a program of the Philippine National Police (PNP) allegedly in accordance with the campaign of the government against illegal drugs and terrorism. It supposedly aims to organize the youth and instill in them the spirit of volunteerism;

WHEREAS, the PNP implements this program with the aid of the local governments, the National Youth Commission (NYC), and the Department of Education (DepEd). Through the Police Community Affairs and Development Group and the Police Regional Offices, the PNP collaborates with these agencies to hold the dialogues and lectures through the Sangguniang Kabataan and public schools;

WHEREAS, Executive Order 70 institutionalizes the Whole-of-Nation approach to address the insurgencies, internal disturbances and tensions, and other armed conflicts and threats;

WHEREAS, despite its purported reasons, the KKDAT is in fact nothing but a program that adheres to EO 70 and vilifies progressive individuals and organizations, brainwashes children and the youth into thinking that activities protected by free speech and other rights are wrong and illegal, uses them as the PNP's tools for black propaganda against progressives and the opposition, and urges them to function as spies for the PNP;

WHEREAS, the PNP also has engaged in illegal partisan activities through the KKDAT. Its newsletter dated May 1-10, 2019 bore the banner headline "Kabataan, nanguna sa

pagkondena sa legal fronts at political parties na sumusuporta sa CPP/NPA" and maliciously labelled progressive party-lists and peoples' organizations as "legal fronts" and "supporters" of the Communist Party of the Philippines and the New People's Army;

WHEREAS, the PNP still holds KKDAT activities in public schools despite the temporary nationwide ban of DepEd on school activities due to the coronavirus. This renders children vulnerable to risks of infection despite the countermeasures intended by the DepEd;

WHEREAS, aside from State Universities and Colleges (SUCs) as venue of KKDAT, there were also reports of police officers going room to room in public high schools and even elementary schools;

WHEREAS, the move of PNP in entering the public schools is against the government's mandate to adhere to the principle of safe schools especially in elementary and high schools and concerning young children and the youth. DepEd through its various Orders including DepEd Order 32, series of 2019 (the *National Policy Framework on Learners and Schools as Zones of Peace*) and DepEd Order 40, series of 2012 (the *Child Protection Policy*), affirms this commitment by declaring the schools as "zones of peace";

WHEREAS, DepEd also mandates all concerned personnel in the Central and field offices to make necessary actions to make all schools a place where children can receive utmost security and peace. It also fully accepts and strongly endorses the Safe Schools Declaration in cognizance of the state's responsibility to maintain the neutrality of schools as zones of peace, and to protect learners, teachers, personnel, and community members from attacks by state and non-state armed groups;

WHEREAS, KKDAT activities are actual threats to the security and peace of the learners because the presence inside and near school premises of police personnel, whether uniformed or not uniformed and whether armed or unarmed, subjects children to various emotional or psychological stresses. Whenever children see police officials in a place where they are supposed to be safe, they are again subject to the trauma of seeing the tokhang killings and operations in their communities. This is especially true in poor communities where most of the students in public schools come from and where the government's drug war and tokhang killings and operations are dominant;

WHEREAS, furthermore, KKDAT baselessly diverts to children the responsibility of eradicating illegal drugs. On the contrary, this responsibility rightfully belongs to police authorities;

WHEREAS, respect should be accorded to schools because it is a place of learning, caring, and nurturing and a second home for children;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that the House of Representatives conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, into the legality of the Kabataan Kontra Droga at Terorismo (KKDAT) dialogues, lectures, and seminars of the Philippine National Police in various high schools and violating the 'safe schools principle'.

Rep. FRANCE L CASTRO ACT Teachers Party-List

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

Rep. FERDINAND GAITE BAYAN MUNA Party-List

alland

Rep. EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT BAYAN MUNA Party-List Rep. ARLENE D. BROSAS
GABRIELA Women's Party

Rep. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO KABAT AN Party-List