Republic of the Philippines

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Batasan Hills, Quezon City



65

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

CONDEMNING THE INTELLIGENCE MONITORING OF MEMBERS OF THE ALL-UP
ACADEMIC EMPLOYEES UNION BY THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE AND
DIRECTING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO
CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION INTO THE SAME

WHEREAS, Article III, Section 4 the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that no law shall be passed abridging the freedom of speech, of expression, or of the press, or of the right of the people peaceably to assemble and petition the government for redress of grievances;

WHEREAS, Article III, Section 8 provides for the right of the people, including those employed in the public and private sectors, to form unions, associations, or societies for purposes not contrary to law shall not be abridged;

WHEREAS, Article III, Section 3 of the Constitution also mandates government to hold inviolable the privacy of communication and correspondence, except in cases where lawful order of the court or when public safety or order requires otherwise, as prescribed by law;

WHEREAS, Section 2 of the *Data Privacy Act of 2012* or Republic Act 10173 provides for the policy of the State to protect the fundamental human right of privacy and of communication. The law also reiterates government's "inherent obligation to ensure

that personal information in information and communications systems in the government and in the private sector are secured and protected";

WHEREAS, upon a letter dated June 25, 2019 signed by Acting Chief PMaj. Johnny Tumambing, the Philippine National Police (PNP) Miag-ao Municipal Station requested the University of the Philippines Visayas for "information regarding the members of the All-UP Academic Employees Union Iloilo Chapter";

WHEREAS, this request cited no reason, whether factual or legal, for the intelligence gathering, merely stating a "mandate from the higher headquarters" directing the information gathering;

WHEREAS, the All-UP Academic Employees Union (AUPAEU) Iloilo Chapter traces this groundless police surveillance as the PNP's fascist response to its statement criticizing the Duterte administration's mishandling of the incident in Recto Bank, wherein a Chinese vessel rammed then sunk a Filipino boat, leaving 11 Filipino fishermen floating at sea, unaided;

WHEREAS, the Union also notes that the profiling follows the death threats against AUPAEU-Cebu Chapter President Dr. Phoebe Zoe Maria Sanchez, sent through text messages on June 27, 2019, the vilification and red-tagging of progressive groups including those of academics and students, and the sham "Red October" plot floated by the military and the police;

WHEREAS, this profiling is also reminiscent of the one conducted against public school teachers upon "confidential" memoranda traced to the PNP's Directorate for Intelligence with the subject "Inventory of All Public and Private School Teachers who are members of or aligned with Alliance of Concerned Teachers";

WHEREAS, AUPAEU, the sole and exclusive negotiating agent of researchers, extension, professional staff and faculty in the University of the Philippines, has denounced this profiling and spate of harassments as "a clear attack against organized labor to silence dissent amid worsening impunity and government subservience to foreign interests";

WHEREAS, this intelligence monitoring of the PNP without any lawful order is a form of harassment and a violation of the right to organization, free speech, and the right to privacy of its members not just of the Iloilo Chapter but of the entire Union nationwide;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives condemn the intelligence monitoring by the Philippine National Police against members of the All-UP Employees Union Iloilo Chapter.

BE IT RESOLVED that the House Committee on Human Rights conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation into the same.

Rep. FRANCE L. CASTRO ACT Teachers Party-List

Rep. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE

BAYAN MUNA Party-List

Rep. FERDINAND GAITE BAYAN MUNA Party-List

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

Rep. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO KABATAAN Party-List