

Republic of the Philippines OUEZON CITY COUNCIL

Quezon City 19th City Council

PR19CC-1338

87th Regular Session

RESOLUTION NO. SP- 6717 , S-2016

A RESOLUTION URGING THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT TO PROVIDE IMMEDIATE AND NECESSARY MEASURES AGAINST THE ALLEGED PARAMILITARY ATTACKS, HARASSMENT, KILLINGS, FORCED EVACUATIONS AND DISPOSSESSION OF ANCESTRAL LANDS, IN THE COMMUNITIES AND TRIBAL SCHOOLS IN THE LUMAD AREAS OF MINDANAO AND TO PROVIDE SANCTIONS TO THOSE FOUND TO BE LIABLE THEREOF.

Introduced by Councilor BAYANI V. HIPOL.

Co-Introduced by Councilors Anthony Peter D. Crisologo, Lena Marie P. Juico, Victor V. Ferrer, Jr., Alexis R. Herrera, Precious Hipolito Castelo, Voltaire Godofredo L. Liban III, Ranulfo Z. Ludovica, Ramon P. Medalla, Estrella C. Valmocina, Allan Benedict S. Reyes, Gian Carlo G. Sotto, Franz S. Pumaren, Eufemio C. Lagumbay, Jose Mario Don S. De Leon, Jaime F. Borres, Jesus Manuel C. Suntay, Marvin C. Rillo, Vincent DG. Belmonte, Raquel S. Malañgen, Jessica Castelo Daza, Jose A. Visaya, Julienne Alyson Rae V. Medalla, Godofredo T. Liban II, Andres Jose G. Yllana, Jr., Allan Butch T. Francisco, Karl Edgar C. Castelo, Candy A. Medina, Marivic Co-Pilar, Rogelio "Roger" P. Juan, Melencio "Bobby" T. Castelo, Jr., Donato C. Matias and Ricardo B. Corpuz.

WHEREAS, Section 3, Article II of the 1987 Constitution provides that civilian authority is, at all times, supreme over the military and that the Armed Forces of the Philippines is the protector of the people and the State. Likewise. Section 4 of the said Constitution states that the prime duty of the Government is to serve and protect the people;

WHEREAS, Section 5, Article II of the Constitution further declares that the maintenance of peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and the promotion of the general welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy;

WHEREAS, Lumads are ethnic and indigenous people, who live in Central Mindanao, whose ancestral lands, rich in gold and other mineral deposits, are now being exploited by big mining operations;

WHEREAS, in the past years, protesting Lumads launched anti-mining campaigns and have been subjected to forcible evacuations, harassment, and the killing of their tribal leaders by paramilitary forces and security forces serving the interests of big mining companies;

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WHEREAS, the above-cited provisions of the Constitution are once again tested as seriously alarming events that led to alleged harassment, killings, forced evacuations and dispossession of ancestral lands, in the communities and tribal schools in the Lumad areas in the Caraga Region have been reported and exposed;

WHEREAS, exponentially increasing the gravity of the above-mentioned allegations are reports that the 36th Infantry Battalion of the Philippine Army and Special Forces are behind and/or in complicity with a certain Magahat/Bagani paramilitary forces in carrying out the said activities;

WHEREAS, in furthering and improving the welfare and well-being of indigenous peoples and tribes in the Philippines these allegations and/or reports deserve serious attention and rectification lest we allow the mockery of the Constitution.

NOW, THEREFORE,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF QUEZON CITY IN REGULAR SESSION ASSEMBLED, to urge, as it does hereby urge the National Government, to provide immediate and necessary measure against the alleged paramilitary attacks, harassment, killings, forced evacuations and dispossession of ancestral lands, in the communities and tribal schools in the Lumad areas of Mindanao and to provide sanctions to those found to be liable thereof."

ADOPTED: February 22, 2016.

VINCENT DG. BELMONTE
President Pro-Tempore
Acting Presiding Officer

ATTESTED:

Atty. JOHN THOMAS SALFEROS III City Gov't. Asst. Dept. Head III

CERTIFICATION

This is to certify that this Resolution was APPROVED by the City Council on Second Reading on February 22, 2016 and was CONFIRMED on February 29, 2016.

Atty. JOHN THOMAS S. ALFEROS III

City Gov't. Asst. Dept. Head III