

---

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

---

RECEIVED BY. 

**RESOLUTION**  
**DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL JUSTICE, WELFARE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, REGARDING THE SAJAHATRA BANGSAMORO PROGRAM THAT IS GEARED TOWARDS SOCIAL PROTECTION**

**WHEREAS**, Article XIII, Section 1 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides, to wit: “The Congress shall give highest priority to the enactment of measures that protect and enhance the right of all the people to human dignity, reduce social, economic, and political inequalities, and remove cultural inequities by equitably diffusing wealth and political power for the common good. To this end, the State shall regulate the acquisition, ownership, use, and disposition of property and its increments.”;

**WHEREAS**, in addition Section 2 of the above-quoted provision provides, to wit: “The promotion of social justice shall include the commitment to create economic opportunities based on freedom of initiative and self-reliance.”;

**WHEREAS**, the Sajahatra Bangsamoro Program (“the, Program”) is focused on quick-gestation, high-impact, social-protection type programs<sup>1</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, the said Program provides for various public services including livelihood assistance through the Cash for Work Program of the Department of Social Welfare and Rural Development<sup>2</sup> as early as 2013;

**WHEREAS**, news reports have indicated that the Program, referred to in the article as a “secretive” program, is being implemented by Malacañang’s peace adviser Teresita Deles for Moro Islamic Liberation Front (“MILF”) rebels and their supporters without the knowledge and coordination with the local government<sup>3</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, in another statement peace adviser Teresita Deles also said that although most items in the peace pact would have to go through legislation to be implemented, some items under the Framework Agreement on the Bangsamoro do not need to go through Congress before implementation<sup>4</sup>;

---

<sup>1</sup> OPAPP Website, Terms of Reference For Sajahatra Bangsamoro;  
<http://www.opapp.gov.ph/sites/default/files/Terms%20of%20Reference%20for%20Sajahatra%20Bangsamoro.pdf>.

<sup>2</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>3</sup> Manila Times Website; <http://www.manilatimes.net/peace-adviser-running-pro-milf-program/169860/>.

<sup>4</sup> Rappler Website; [http://www.rappler.com/nation/21181-gov-t-milf-to-launch-sajahatra-bangsamoro?utm\\_expid=52036214-3.ZdNjcl7wRGKh5FrBYz8eLQ.0&utm\\_referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com%2F](http://www.rappler.com/nation/21181-gov-t-milf-to-launch-sajahatra-bangsamoro?utm_expid=52036214-3.ZdNjcl7wRGKh5FrBYz8eLQ.0&utm_referrer=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.google.com%2F).

**WHEREAS**, the Program was infused with government funding from concerned implementing agencies<sup>5</sup> of the government<sup>6</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, the Program is stated as not exclusive to MILF members and be open to all Christians, Muslims and Lumad in the area<sup>7</sup> but the list of area covered as well as the list of beneficiaries will have to come from the MILF<sup>8</sup>;

**WHEREAS**, the uncoordinated efforts of various government agencies in implementing the Program without the knowledge of local government units as well as the counter-productive identification of coverage and beneficiaries of the Program with the end in view of providing various public services warrants an investigation in aid of legislation to ensure social protection.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE**, as it hereby resolved, to direct the Committee on Social Justice, Welfare and Rural Development to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, regarding the Sajahatra Bangsamoro Program that is geared towards social protection.

Adopted,



**MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY**  
Senator

---

<sup>5</sup> Supra citation [4].

<sup>6</sup> Supra citation [1].

<sup>7</sup> Supra citation [4].

<sup>8</sup> Supra citation [1].