

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )



**SENATE**

**P.S. Res. No. 513**

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Introduced by **SENATOR LEILA M. DE LIMA**

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**RESOLUTION**  
**DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT**  
**AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CIRCUMSTANCES**  
**SURROUNDING THE ARREST OF ABDULJIHAN IDANG SUSUKAN IN**  
**THE CUSTODY OF NUR MISUARI, TO ASCERTAIN THE NATURE OF**  
**THEIR DEALINGS AND TO DETERMINE ITS IMPLICATIONS ON OUR**  
**NATIONAL SECURITY**

1        WHEREAS, R.A. No. 9372, otherwise known as the Human Security Act of  
2        2007, Section 2 provides that “[i]t is declared a policy of the State to protect life, liberty,  
3        and property from acts of terrorism, to condemn terrorism as inimical and dangerous  
4        to the national security of the country and to the welfare of the people, and to make  
5        terrorism a crime against the Filipino people, against humanity, and against the law of  
6        nations;”

7        WHEREAS, the same policy was re-enacted in Section 2 of R.A. No. 11479,  
8        otherwise known as the Anti-Terrorism Act of 2020;

9        WHEREAS, on 13 August 2020, the Philippine National Police (PNP) took  
10       custody of Abu Sayyaf Group leader Anduljihad "Edang" Susukan at the residence of  
11       Moro National Liberation Front (MNLF) chairman Nur Misuari in Yñigue Subdivision,  
12       Maa, Davao City;<sup>1</sup>

13       WHEREAS, the PNP said it initiated a negotiation after learning that Susukan  
14       was brought to Davao City to receive medical attention. The police served 23 warrants

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<sup>1</sup> PNP takes Abu Sayyaf leader Susukan at Misuari home in Davao City. GMA News Online. (13 August 2020). Retrieved from: <https://www.gmanetwork.com/news/news/nation/751273/pnp-takes-abu-sayyaf-s-idang-susukan-at-misuari-home-in-davao-city/story/>

1 of arrest for murder, five for kidnapping and serious illegal detention, and six for  
2 frustrated murder against Susukan;<sup>2</sup>

3 WHEREAS, Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana reportedly said that Misuari  
4 could be charged for violation of the Anti-Terrorism Act if it is established that he  
5 coddled Susukan. Sec. Lorenzana said Susukan and Misuari were sighted in Davao City  
6 shortly before the bandit leader was arrested on Thursday;<sup>3</sup>

7 WHEREAS, the incident is reported to have bared serious differences of  
8 opinion on our country's security policies. The bone of contention, military sources  
9 said, was the presidential amnesty that allegedly underpinned a surrender deal  
10 brokered by Misuari;<sup>4</sup>

11 WHEREAS, according to military sources, aside from being a top Abu Sayyaf  
12 leader, Susukan is the son of one of the deceased rebel Agga Susukan, one of Misuari's  
13 most trusted aides during the early days of the Moro rebellion, and Misuari promised  
14 Susukan his late father's position if he would surrender;<sup>5</sup>

15 WHEREAS, the surrender deal reportedly worries security officials because of  
16 its international implications and because of a provision therein that Susukan and his  
17 Abu Sayyaf followers would be integrated into Misuari's MNLF forces;

18 WHEREAS, there is a need to establish the legitimacy of the activities of Misuari  
19 and whether his continuous operations in Mindanao are sanctioned by the highest  
20 authorities and serve the interests of our country;

21 WHEREAS, for the sake of our national security, there is a need for our security  
22 sector -- the AFP, the PNP, and the intelligence services -- to disclose the complete  
23 details of the deal between Misuari and Susukan and determine whether the same was  
24 sanctioned by the highest authorities and on what basis;

25 WHEREAS, Anti-Terror Law or not, our government must stay ahead of  
26 terrorism; this means preventing the rehabilitation of known terrorists by government  
27 authorities;

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

<sup>3</sup> Punongbayan, Michael and Edith Regalado. *Misuari may face raps for coddling Abu Sayyaf leader*. Philstar Global. (15 August 2020). Retrieved from: <https://www.philstar.com/nation/2020/08/15/2035397/misuari-may-face-raps-coddling-abu-sayyaf-leader>

<sup>4</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>5</sup> *Ibid.*

1 WHEREAS, it sends the wrong signal to our countrymen and to the world if our  
2 government is seen to coddle known terrorists while legitimate dissent is being stifled  
3 publicly through harassments and extrajudicial killings;

4 WHEREAS, it is morally wrong for our government to offer any form of political  
5 deal to terrorists, including amnesty, while the families of their victims still suffer  
6 waiting for justice;

7 WHEREAS, there is a need for our government to declare a clear policy on the  
8 Abu Sayyaf, Misuari, and his MNLF splinter faction still holding out in Sulu after the  
9 2013 Zamboanga Siege which terrorized and almost destroyed the city;

10 WHEREAS, there is a need to determine whether the trust being reposed by  
11 Pres. Duterte on Malacañang's Special Envoy to the OIC is being abused by the latter  
12 as evidenced in his highly questionable caper with a known terrorist, which can already  
13 be considered as aiding and abetting a terrorist and therefore should be prosecuted to  
14 the fullest extent of the law;

15 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, to direct the  
16 appropriate Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the  
17 circumstances surrounding the arrest of Abduljihan Idang Susukan in the custody of  
18 Nur Misuari, to ascertain the nature of their dealings and to determine its implications  
19 on our national security.

*Adopted,*

  
**LEILA M. DE LIMA**