

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

**SENATE  
P.S.R. No. 686**



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Introduced by **Senator Risa Hontiveros**

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**RESOLUTION  
DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO  
CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON  
ACTS OF "RED-TAGGING" COMMITTED AGAINST TRADE  
UNIONS AND WORKER ORGANIZATIONS WITH THE END IN  
VIEW OF CRAFTING LEGISLATION TO PROTECT DEMOCRATIC  
SPACES AND CIVIL LIBERTIES FROM STATE-LED HARASSMENT**

**WHEREAS**, the right to association, a right guaranteed by the 1987 Constitution, includes the right to form organizations of one's own choosing and the right to be protected from harassment and intimidation in the exercise of this freedom;

**WHEREAS**, as a member of the International Labor Organization, the Philippines commits itself to policies and measures that protect freedom of association, and acknowledges that the ultimate responsibility for ensuring respect for the principles of freedom of association lies with the government;

**WHEREAS**, on November 7, 2020, Nagkakaisang Manggagawa ng Buong Lohistika at Distribusyon ng Coca-Cola South at Central Mindanao – Federation and Cooperation of Cola, Beverage and Allied Industry Unions (NMLDCC-SCMM-FCCU) -- the logistics union of Coca-cola workers in South Central Mindanao -- won in the certification election (CE) to represent a bargaining unit consisting of Coca-cola logistics employees in Tagum City over rival union SOMINCOCBLU, but prior to the CE, a series of orientations were conducted by the Philippine National Police together with officers from SOMINCOCBLU saying that FCCU and its national President Fred Maranon are members of Kilusang Mayo Uno (KMU) and supporters of the New People's Army (NPA);

**WHEREAS**, in fact, during the CE, elements of the Philippine National Police (PNP) were observed in Coca-Cola plants in Tagum, Davao, and General Santos, and officers of SOMINCOCBLU kept brandishing tarpaulins stating that SOMINCOCBLU has a Memorandum of Agreement with the PNP;

**WHEREAS**, Samahang Manggagawa sa Coca-Cola (SAMACOCKE-FCCU) members and leaders report that incidences of red-tagging continue to persist and intensify, and in March of this year, Union members in Darong, Sta. Cruz, Davao del Sur plan received a letter inviting them to a 'meeting' at Barangay Darong;

**WHEREAS**, at this meeting, almost all the leaders and organizers of FCCU were red-tagged as legal fronts of the NPA;

**WHEREAS**, these developments are particularly alarming in light of President Rodrigo Duterte's order to police and military forces to kill all communist rebels, and reports in many parts of the country of assassinations and disappearances of individuals associated with the Left;

**WHEREAS**, this State-endorsed practice of red-tagging has given rise to naked impunity on the part of law enforcement agents and has created a chilling effect on organizers, trade unions, and the freedom of association guaranteed by the 1987 Constitution;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, THAT THE SENATE DIRECT THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ON ACTS OF "RED-TAGGING" COMMITTED AGAINST TRADE UNIONS AND WORKER ORGANIZATIONS WITH THE END IN VIEW OF CRAFTING LEGISLATION TO PROTECT DEMOCRATIC SPACES AND CIVIL LIBERTIES FROM STATE-LED HARASSMENT.**

Adopted,

  
**RISA HONTIVEROS**  
*Senator*