

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

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## SENATE

P.S. RES. NO. 698

## INTRODUCED BY SENATOR RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA

## **RESOLUTION**

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND DANGEROUS DRUGS TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE ALLEGED INHUMANE, VIOLENT AND HIGHLY IRREGULAR ACTS PERPETRATED BY THE PNP PERSONNEL AND UNKNOWN PERSONS AGAINST MAYOR SAMSON DUMANJUG OF BONIFACIO, MISAMIS OCCIDENTAL

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 6975 mandated the Philippine National Police (PNP) to enforce all laws and ordinances relative to the protection of lives and properties; and maintain peace and order and take all necessary steps to ensure public safety, among others;

WHEREAS, in accordance with the 1987 Philippine Constitution, the local government units have the power to exercise operational supervision and control over PNP units in their respective jurisdiction;

WHEREAS, on June 21, 2023, Mayor Samson Dumanjug wrote a letter to the undersigned, alleging that between October 2022 to May 2023, a series of preventive suspension was meted out against him by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan of Misamis Occidental;

WHEREAS, he further claimed that some decisions were served by the PNP of Misamis Occidental while others were served by the process servers of the provincial government accompanied and assisted by PNP personnel. Allegedly, some of the decisions were never implemented by the Department of Interior and Local Government or the Office of the Governor of Misamis Occidental;

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WHEREAS, Mayor Samson Dumanjug narrated in his letter that on June 16, 2023, he was forcibly ejected from the Mayor's Office of Bonifacio, Misamis Occidental by the PNP personnel wearing full battle gear and equipped with high powered rifles together with unknown persons wearing civilian clothes;

WHEREAS, he attested that the PNP personnel physically broke the windows of his office, disarmed and ordered his police escort to lie face-down on the floor, then aimed high-powered firearms at him; forced him to a wheelchair; bound his hands and feet to the said wheelchair; wrapped his head with a *malong*, and boarded him to an ambulance;

 WHEREAS, before, during, and immediately after his forceful eviction from the Mayor's Office, he was not apprised of the reason and purpose of the violent and inhumane acts committed against him by the PNP personnel and unknown persons;

WHEREAS, he asserted that it was only after he underwent booking procedures for arrested person that an information for alleged violations of Article 151 (Resistance and disobedience to a person in authority or the agents of such person) and Article 237 (Prolonging Performance of Duties and Powers, of the Revised Penal Code) were filed;

WHEREAS, the alleged violence suffered by Mayor Dumanjug, an elected local chief executive, in the hands of the PNP personnel who vowed to serve and protect the Filipino people is very alarming;

WHEREAS, given the crucial role the PNP plays in preserving the peace, order, and security of our country, it is crucial to uphold the highest standards of professionalism; observance of human rights; and legality for all of its officers.;

 WHEREAS, Mayor Dumanjug represents the trust and mandate bestowed upon him by the people who elected him to office. Any act of violence against him is not only an attack on his person but also a direct assault on the will of the people of Bonifacio, Misamis Occidental;

WHEREAS, incidents of violence, abuse of power, and extrajudicial actions by law enforcement personnel not only erode public trust in the institutions tasked with ensuring public safety but also create an atmosphere of fear and intimidation within our communities;

WHEREAS, in light of the alleged highly irregular acts by the PNP personnel, there is a need to review the current operating guidelines and protocols in the performance of their mandated duties, including those that involve critical decisions

on the use of force, in order to identify potential flaws that could have led to such misconduct and to ensure that such protocols are in accordance with existing law;

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WHEREAS, it is imperative upon the Senate to ensure that laws governing the PNP are effective to prevent the occurrence of such complained irregular acts and to craft necessary legislative measures to address any identified policy gaps;

 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved, to direct the Senate Committee on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation on the alleged inhumane, violent, and highly irregular acts perpetrated by the PNP personnel and unknown persons against Mayor Samson Dumanjug of Bonifacio, Misamis Occidental.

Adopted,

RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA