



SENATE
P. S. RES. No. 38

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Introduced by SENATOR RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC ORDER AND DANGEROUS DRUGS AND NATIONAL SECURITY AND DEFENSE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE MISSING MINORS WHO ARE ALLEGEDLY RECRUITED BY LEFTIST GROUPS AS THEIR MEMBERS AND FIGHTERS TO THE DETRIMENT OF THE WELFARE OF SAID MINORS WITH THE END IN VIEW OF RECOMMENDING MEASURES THAT WILL ENSURE PEACE AND PROMOTE THE WELFARE OF CHILDREN

WHEREAS, Section 5, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution states 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, Section 13, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs;

WHEREAS, on July 23, 2019, a group of parents visited the office of the undersigned and relayed their predicaments involving their respective child. They have reported incidents of alleged indoctrination and recruitment of their missing child by members of alleged left-leaning organizations;

WHEREAS, the parents stated that due to the alleged recruitment, their children, who are all minors, are purportedly induced to leave and abandon their homes permanently. One of the parents claimed that his 16-year old daughter left their home for almost a week for a leadership training without their consent. Concerned for the safety of his child, he searched for her and found her in a political rally in Quezon City;

WHEREAS, another parent claimed that his child was convinced to leave their home for three days to attend a seminar in a state university. When her mother checked on her whereabouts, she failed to locate her and the seminar her child claimed to attend to did not exist;

WHEREAS, there was an alarming report that communist terrorists are recruiting minors as their fighters as young as 10 years old.¹ Same news report also claimed that the communist group have been doing this for decades but their recruitment efforts were intensified now because their armed group have been depleted due to frequent clash with government troops;

WHEREAS, the Department of Interior and Local Government Secretary Eduardo Año claimed that "The Communist Party of the Philippines (CPP)/National Peoples' Army (NPA)/National Democratic Front (NDF) are poisoning the minds of our children to take up arms against the government. They teach the innocent how to use a gun, how to fight in armed combat, how to gain people's sympathy, to sing a different version of the national anthem and to join rallies calling for the overthrow of government."² He further claimed that a 15-year-old child who was fighting for the NPA was killed in a clash between government troops and communist rebels;

WHEREAS, educational institutions are mandated by the Constitution to inculcate patriotism and nationalism, foster love of humanity, respect for human

¹ <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1074611>

² <https://newsinfo.inquirer.net/1059725/npa-not-recruiting-minors-as-fighters-a-blatant-lie-ano>

rights, appreciation of the role of national heroes in the historical development of the country, teach the rights and duties of citizenship, strengthen ethical and spiritual values, develop moral character and personal discipline, encourage critical and creative thinking, broaden scientific and technological knowledge, and promote vocational efficiency;

WHEREAS, the concerned parents alleged that the educational institution where their child has been enrolled failed its duty to protect their children to the alleged recruitment and indoctrination; the parents further alleged that the educational institution has been mum on the issue despite the use of their facilities in the recruitment of the minors;

WHEREAS, to protect the interest and welfare of the children, there is an urgent need to investigate the disturbing reports of the alleged recruitment of minors as fighters of the CPP/NPA/NDF. Further, the herein allegations against CPP/NPA/NDF would be detrimental to the efforts of the government and the concerned groups in achieving lasting peace in the country;

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved, To direct the Senate Committee on Public Order and Dangerous Drugs and National Security and Defense, to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the missing minors who are allegedly recruited by leftist groups as their members and fighters to the detriment of the welfare of said minors with the end in view of recommending measures that will ensure peace and promote the welfare of children.

Adopted,


RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA