

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

8 AUG -4 P1:39

**SENATE**P.S. Res. No. **546**

RECEIVED BY

Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON NATIONAL DEFENSE AND SECURITY TO INQUIRE AND LOOK INTO IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT ON ANCESTRAL DOMAIN (MoA-AD) ENTERED INTO BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT AND THE MORO ISLAMIC LIBERATION FRONT (MILF) WHICH IS SET TO BE FORMALLY SIGNED ON 05 AUGUST 2008, IN PUTRAJAYA, MALAYSIA WITH THE END IN VIEW OF ENSURING THAT THE PROVISIONS OF THE AGREEMENT WILL NOT BE DETRIMENTAL TO THE INTERESTS OF AFFECTED PEOPLE IN MINDANAO AND THE ENTIRE COUNTRY**

**WHEREAS**, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo in her State of the Nation Address (SONA) last July 28, 2008, referred to the accord reached by the Government of the Republic of the Philippines (GRP) and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) set to be formally signed on August 5 of this year in Malaysia;

**WHEREAS**, it has been reported that among the salient provisions of the GRP-MILF agreement consists of expanding the covered areas of the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM) to embrace 721 new villages in five additional provinces to form the Bangsamoro Juridical Entity;

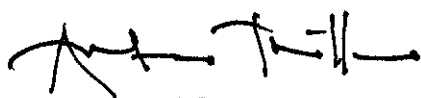
**WHEREAS**, it has been reported that local government officials in the affected areas headed by North Cotabato Governor Jesus Sacdalan are demanding the disclosure of the draft agreement before the same be forged with finality;

**WHEREAS**, such a critical agreement that may significantly affect not only the lives of those within the territories covered by the proposed expanded ARMM but also our national security situation; the government is duty-bound to inform the people in the spirit of the Constitutional right to information;

**WHEREAS**, the Committee on National Defense and Security should immediately summon government officials representing the GRP panel as well as demand for the official submission of the original copy of said MoA-AD in order to assess the plan, scrutinize, come-up with a pertinent legislation and recommend possible deferment of the August 5, 2008 signing if the proposed agreement shall turn out to be detrimental to the people and the nation.

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, to direct the Committee on National Defense and Security to inquire and look into in aid of legislation, the Memorandum of Agreement on Ancestral Domain (MoA-AD) entered into between the government and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) which is set to be formally signed on 05 August 2008, in Putrajaya, Malaysia with the end in view of ensuring that the provisions of the agreement will not be detrimental to the interests of the affected people in Mindanao and the entire country.

Adopted,

  
**ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV**  
Senator