

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 495

Introduced by
ACT Teachers Party-List Rep. FRANCE L. CASTRO,
BAYAN MUNA Party-List Rep. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE,
Rep. FERDINAND GAITE and Rep. EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT,
GABRIELA Women's Party Rep. ARLENE D. BROSAS,
and KABATAAN Party-List Rep. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO

RESOLUTION

CONDEMNING THE THREAT, HARASSMENT, AND INTIMIDATION AGAINST OLIVER LUCENARIO, A PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHER AND PRESIDENT OF THE ALLIANCE OF CONCERNED TEACHERS REGION V UNION, AND THE UNION BUSTING AGAINST THE SAID UNION, AND URGING THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE AND THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO CONDUCT AN IMMEDIATE INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION INTO THE SAME

WHEREAS, on 4 October 2019, the eve of the celebration of World Teachers' Day, an unidentified man delivered to Oliver Barlizo Lucenario, a public school teacher, an envelope containing his personal details, photos of him and his family, a copy of Executive Order 70 and instructions to call a certain mobile number;

WHEREAS, this was not the first time that Mr. Lucenario, who is the President of the Alliance of Concerned Teachers Region V Union, received a package from an unidentified man that intends to threaten him and his safety;

WHEREAS, it is clear from the nature of Mr. Lucenario's position and union work, the modus operandi employed which is similar to threats against other activists nationwide including unionists under Alliance of Concerned Teachers, and the

inclusion of Executive Order 70 in the envelope, that state security forces are behind this threat against a teacher and unionist;

WHEREAS, the threat is also intended to harass and intimidate not only Mr. Lucenario himself but the entire ACT Region V Union, which is currently in the middle of collective negotiation with the Department of Education Region V for monetary and non-monetary benefits and better working conditions of public school teachers in the Bicol Region. This vile act is therefore effectively one of union busting and an offense against all public school teachers in the Bicol Region;

WHEREAS, EO 70, which created the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict, uses a so-called whole-of-nation approach to weaponize government agencies against activists and critics of anti-people policies, whom they tag as "terrorists." Behind this is the absurd theory that the statements, activities, and struggles of progressive organizations are "Left-leaning propaganda" and that activists and militant organizations are "enemies of the state";

WHEREAS, this threat, harassment, and intimidation against a teacher-unionist and the union itself is even more atrocious considering that it was committed during the eve of World Teachers' Day, declared by the United Nations in observation of the duties of governments regarding the economic, civil, and political rights of teachers. Instead of hearing the calls of public school teachers for a substantial salary increase, better working conditions, and just benefits, the state gifts them with threats and harassment;


WHEREAS, this threat, harassment, and intimidation was also committed in the heels of the illegal profiling and terrorist tagging against ACT and public and private school teachers;

WHEREAS, Congress must step in to craft legislation and exercise oversight on security and defense agencies to prevent acts such as these which sabotage and criminalize legitimate struggles and activities and violate fundamental constitutional rights of the people, especially those coming from marginalized sectors such as teachers.

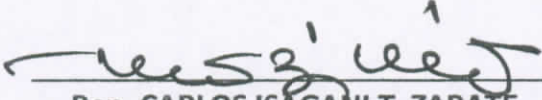
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, that the House of Representatives condemn the threat, harassment, and intimidation against Oliver Lucenario, a public school teacher and President of the Alliance of Concerned Teachers Region V Union, and the union busting against the said Union.

BE IT RESOLVED, that, and the House Committee on Basic Education and Culture and the House Committee on Human Rights conduct an immediate inquiry in aid of legislation into the same.

Adopted,



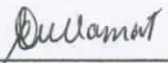
Rep. FRANCE L. CASTRO
ACT Teachers Party-List



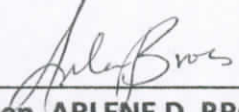
Rep. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE
BAYAN MUNA Party-List



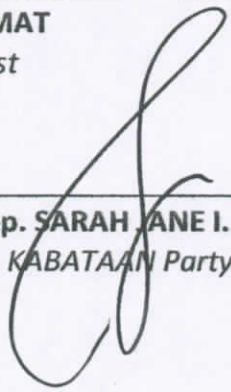
Rep. FERDINAND GAITE
BAYAN MUNA Party-List



Rep. EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT
BAYAN MUNA Party-List



Rep. ARLENE D. BROSAS
GABRIELA Women's Party



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