Republic of the Philippines

Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao Cotabato City

BANGSAMORO TRANSITION AUTHORITY

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A RESOLUTION

RESPECTFULLY URGING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP), DEPARMENT OF INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG), AND THE NATIONAL POLICE COMMISSION (NAPOLCOM) TO RECONSIDER ITS POLICY OF REASSIGNING OR TRANSFERRING ERRING POLICE OFFICERS IN MINDANAO ESPECIALLY IN BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO

WHEREAS, REPUBLIC ACT 6975 "AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE UNDER A REORGANIZED DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES" declares in Section 2the Policy of the State "to promote peace and order, ensure public safety and further strengthen local government capability aimed towards the effective delivery of the basic services to the citizenry through the establishment of a highly efficient and competent police force that is national in scope and civilian in character. Towards this end, the State shall bolster a system of coordination and cooperation among the citizenry, local executives and the integrated law enforcement and public safety agencies created under this Act.";

WHEREAS, Section 2of REPUBLIC ACT 8551 "AN ACT PROVIDING FOR THE REFORM AND REORGANIZATION OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES, AMENDING CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NUMBERED SIXTY-NINE HUNDRED AND SEVENTY-FIVE ENTITLED, "AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE UNDER A RE-ORGANIZED DEPARTMENT OF THE

INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES" provides as a matter of Policy and Principle of the State that,

"It is hereby declared the policy of the State to establish a highly efficient and competent police force which is national in scope and civilian in character administered and controlled by a national police commission.

The Philippine National Police (PNP) shall be a community and service-oriented agency responsible for the maintenance of peace and order and public safety.

The PNP shall be so organized to ensure accountability and uprightness in police exercise of discretion as well as to achieve efficiency and effectiveness of its members and units in the performance of their functions;"

WHEREAS, the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) under Republic Act 6975 as amended by Republic Act 8551 exercises control and supervision over the Philippine National Police (PNP) and the National Police Commission (NAPOLCOM) - the National Police Commission and the Philippine National Police being part of the Organization of the Department as Bureaus, with the Secretary of the Department sitting as the ex-officio Chairperson of the Commission;

WHEREAS, the NAPOLCOM as an agency attached to the DILG for policy and program coordination for the Philippine National Police charged with the power to exercise administrative control and operational supervision over the PNP is mandated to develop policies and promulgate a police manual prescribing rules and regulations for efficient organization, administration, and operation, including criteria for manpower allocation, distribution and deployment, recruitment, selection, promotion, and retirement of personnel and the conduct of qualifying entrance and promotional examinations for uniformed members;

WHEREAS, the Philippine National Police (PNP) established by virtue of Republic Act 6975 mandates a truly professionalize and dedicated law enforcers duty bound to promote peace and order, ensure public safety, and enhance community participation guided by the principle that public office is a public trust and that at all times, public servants shall be accountable to the people;

WHEREAS, furthermore, law enforcers are required with utmost responsibility to serve with integrity, morality, loyalty and efficiency with due respect for human rights and dignity a hallmark of a democratic society;

WHEREAS, however, the Philippine National Police (PNP) directed a 'Policy' of transferring or reassigning erring law enforcers in Luzon and other parts of the country in Mindanao especially areas within the jurisdiction of the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao;

WHEREAS, this 'policy' is rooted in a robbery-extortion case encapsulated in a news item stating, "The decision to transfer rogue police officers to Mindanao came after seven officers from Pampanga were accused in robbery-extortion of three Korean nationals, as well as the killing of Korean businessman Jee Ick-Joo inside the PNP headquarters in Camp Crame¹;"

WHEREAS, justifying this policy in whatever form and substance cannot but insinuate a different treatment of Mindanao from the rest of the country especially in the Bangsamoro Region which had long experienced the destitution and exclusionary consequences of armed confrontation – the most recent one was the "Marawi Siege" – and aggravation of the further alienation of trust and confidence which hangs in the balance as a product of the enactment and subsequent implementation of the Republic Act 11054 otherwise known as the 'Bangsamoro Organic Law';

WHEREAS, as catapulted in the words of then Senate President Aquilino "Koko" Pimentel II as an expression of dissent and disagreement with the policy,

"Mindanao should be treated by the PNP with the same respect that all Filipinos deserve regardless of their faith, their culture, and their economic status," said Pimentel in a statement to media.

Give Mindanao the best men in uniform. Mindanao deserves nothing less," said Pimentel, who noted that he was "expressing the dismay and apprehension of law-abiding citizens in the South for being the 'favored dumping ground' for rogue policemen."

NOW THEREFORE, be it RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Bangsamoro Parliament to RESPECTFULLY URGE THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP), DEPARMENT OF INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG), AND THE NATIONAL POLICE COMMISSION (NAPOLCOM) TO RECONSIDER ITS POLICY OF REASSIGNING OR TRANSFERRING ERRING POLICE OFFICERS IN MINDANAO ESPECIALLY IN BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO.

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¹https://www.philstar.com/nation/2017/02/08/1670540/sending-erring-cops-mindanao-not-punishment-says-pnp