

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila



Fourteenth Congress
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419

House Resolution No. _____

Introduced by GABRIELA Women's Party Representatives Liza Largoza-Maza and Luzviminda Ilagan, Anak Pawis Party Representative Crispin Beltran, and Bayan Muna Representatives Satur Ocampo and Teddy Casiño

A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THAT THE PROPOSAL TO IMPLEMENT A NATIONAL IDENTIFICATION (ID) SYSTEM IS REPRESSIVE AND UNCONSTITUTIONAL AND WILL NOT SOLVE THE PROBLEM OF CRIMINALITY, TERRORISM AND THE LACK OF ACCESS TO SOCIAL SERVICES IN THE COUNTRY

WHEREAS, our Constitution declares 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 people of the of the blessings of democracy;

WHEREAS, our Constitution also states that the State values the dignity of every human person and guarantees full respect for human rights;

WHEREAS, the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and the Philippine National Police (PNP), recently recommended for the revival of the National ID System to President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo mainly to eradicate the threat to our national security and secondly to provide access to service;

WHEREAS, an earlier Supreme Court ruling declared the 1997 Administrative Order of former President Fidel Ramos mandating a national ID system intrusive and unconstitutional on the grounds that the right to privacy is a fundamental right guaranteed by the Constitution and only Congress should pass a law involving national identifications;

WHEREAS, various sectors have expressed opposition to the national ID system because it infringes on the Bill of Rights of the people especially their right to privacy and movement;

WHEREAS, the undertaking of this project will be another burden on our national budget;

WHEREAS, the national ID system is not needed in any effort to fight criminality and terrorism, as the government has all the apparatuses and mechanisms to address these problems. The military has a huge share of the national budget that could be used against criminals;

WHEREAS, the national ID system will only give a false sense of security;

WHEREAS, the national ID system, coupled with the Human Security Act, will only strengthen the creation of a police state;

WHEREAS, the national ID system, contrary to the proposal's promises of efficiency in the delivery of basic services, can also be used to deprive anyone from availing of basic health services, education and even the right to travel for failure to produce a national ID card;

WHEREAS, for failure to produce a national ID card, a person can be presumed fugitive or even a terrorist;

WHEREAS, considering that government institutions especially law-enforcement and intelligence agencies are wracked with scandals related to drugs, corruption, kidnapping, extortion, and incompetence, the idea of a national ID card system is bound to be a tool for abuses and human rights violation;

WHEREAS, there is a need for the House of Representatives to assert its mandate to not just enact but hinder the passage of measures that are unconstitutional and detrimental to the basic rights and freedoms of the people;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the House of Representatives express its sense that the proposal to implement a national ID System is repressive and unconstitutional and will not solve the problem of criminality, terrorism and the lack of access to social services in the country.


Adopted,


LIZA LARGOZA-MAZA


LUZVIMINDA ILAGAN


CRISPIN BELTRAN


SATUR OCAMPO


TEODORO CASIÑO