Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 815

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

RESOLUTION
URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THROUGH THE COMMITTEE
ON HUMAN RIGHTS, TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF
LEGISLATION ON THE ARREST OF LUMAD LEADER AND NATIONAL ANTI-
POVERTY COMMISSION (NAPC) INDIGENOUS PEOPLE’S SECTOR COUNCIL
MEMBER GLORIA CAMPOS TUMALON

WHEREAS, on March 19, 2020, joint forces of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) and
Philippine National Police (PNP) arrested Gloria Campos Tumalon, National Anti-Poverty
Commission (NAPC) Indigenous Peoples Sector Council Member, on the trumped-up charge of
Kidnapping and Serious Illegal Detention in Brgy. Diatagon, Lianga, Surigao del Sur;

WHEREAS, state forces went to the home of Tumalon at around 11:20 AM and “invited” her
to the police station. She was placed on arrest upon arrival at the Lianga Municipal Police Station
where she is currently detained;

WHEREAS, Tumalon was arrested by virtue of a warrant of arrest under the trumped-up
charge of Kidnapping and Serious Illegal Detention. The case refers to an NPA offensive on
December 19, 2018. It was filed against 468 individuals, 78 of which are known civilians –
leaders and members of progressive and legitimate people’s organizations, government
employees, members of the religious community, journalists and humanitarian workers –
including Gloria Tumalon;

WHEREAS, after the arrest, the PNP falsely presented Tumalon as a leader of the communist
New People’s Army (NPA) and identified her as a leader of Malahutayong Pakigbisog Alang sa
Sumusunod (MAPASU);

WHEREAS, contrary to the false claims of the PNP, Tumalon is not a leader of the communist
New People’s Army but in fact a known legitimate tribal leader who is presently serving as a
council member for the Indigenous People’s Sector of NAPC. She has been occupying such
office since 2011. She is the leader and founder of the organization Kalugyangan sa Tribung
Manobo ng Mamanwa nga Nag-uugmad sa Maayong Uguwa (Katribummu), which has partnered
with government agencies like DENR, DHLG, NAPC, DA, and the Local Government of
Liang. Katribummu is registered with the Department of Labor and Employment, the
Municipal Government of Lianga, and with the Bureau of Internal Revenue;

WHEREAS, prior to her arrest, Tumalon, together with leaders and members of Lumad
organization MAPASU, were subjected to a series of red-tagging and harassments by the AFP. Major Gen. Antonio Parlade, spokesperson of the National Task Force to End Local Communist Insurgency (NTF-FI.CAC), issued statements vilifying and red-tagging MAPASU, its leader and members, and Gloria Tumalon. Parlade also tagged KATRIBUMMU as an organization with “communistic principles” despite its record of partnership with government agencies;

WHEREAS, the criminal case filed against Tumalon and members and leaders of MAPASU is clearly a judicial harassment against the Lumad of Lianga, Surigao del Sur to undermine their assertions of their right to self-determination and defense of ancestral lands. Attacks against activists, members of people’s organizations and human rights defenders have intensified since President Duterte issued Executive Order 70 which created the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC). The national task force has since unveiled itself as a tool to silence all forms of dissent from activists and people’s organizations by falsely tagging its members as armed combatants of rebel groups. Despite the lifting of Martial Law in Mindanao, military encampments in communities and human rights violations still persist;

WHEREAS, it is imperative for members of Congress, as representatives of our people, to defend the rights of our people and check on excesses and violations being committed against them. Laws and rules should serve the interest of our people, and should not be weaponized to suppress their rights nor to oppress them;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives, through the Committee on Human Rights, conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, on the arrest of Lumad leader and National Anti-Poverty Commission (NAPO) indigenous people’s sector council member Gloria Campos Tumalon.

Approved,

REP. EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT
Bayan Muna Partylist

REP. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE
Bayan Muna Partylist

REP. ARLENE D. BROSAS
Gabriel’s Women’s Party

REP. FRANCISCO L. CASTRO
ACT Teachers Partylist

REP. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO
Kabataan Partylist