



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Resolution No. 738



Introduced by Representative **GERALDINE B. ROMAN**

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON BASES CONVERSION TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION TO INVESTIGATE THE DECISION OF THE BASES CONVERSION DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AND THE PROCESS BY WHICH IT REACHED ITS DECISION TO EXPROPRIATE LANDS IN BARANGAYS NAPARING, PAGASA, AND PINULOT IN THE MUNICIPALITY OF DINALUPIHAN, PROVINCE OF BATAAN, IN CONNECTION WITH ITS SUBIC-CLARK RAILWAY PROJECT

WHEREAS, the Bases Conversion Development Authority (BCDA) has the power of eminent domain;

WHEREAS, the BCDA seeks to provide freight service between the Subic Bay Freeport Zone and the Clark Freeport and Special Economic Zone and link the Subic Port with Clark International Airport and other major economic hubs in Central Luzon (“Subic-Clark Railway Project”);

WHEREAS, the BCDA has determined that, to pave the way for the Subic-Clark Railway Project, it would need to expropriate lands in Barangays Naparing, Pagasa, and Pinulot in the Municipality of Dinalupihan, Province of Bataan.

WHEREAS, the determination to expropriate the above enumerated lands was allegedly reached without consulting the affected communities;

WHEREAS, the planned expropriation would result in forced displacement, i.e., the destruction of hundreds of homes, elementary and high schools, barangay and multi-purpose halls, a health center, a day care center, and an Iglesia ni Kristo church;

WHEREAS, the Constitution only allows for payment of “just compensation” to those dispossessed of property through expropriation, based on the market value of the property at the time of taking by the government;

WHEREAS, “just compensation” fails to factor in the full cost to human development of expropriation, namely and according to studies, the loss of “homes,” employment in affected farm lands, food source, and social networks, which cause or contribute to poverty, destruction of self-dependence, low access to education among displaced persons, and health insecurity;

WHEREAS, the Sangguniang Barangay of Naparing has passed a resolution seeking the intervention of the Committee on Bases Conversion and seeking an alternative route for the Subic-Clark Railway Project;

NOW, THEREFORE, IN VIEW THEREOF, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, to direct the Committee on Bases Conversion to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation to investigate the decision of the BCDA, and the process by which it reached its decision, to expropriate lands in Barangays Naparing, Pagasa, and Pinulot in the Municipality of Bataan, Province of Bataan, in connection with the Subic-Clark Railway Project.

Adopted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Geraldine B. Roman". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned in the lower right quadrant of the page.