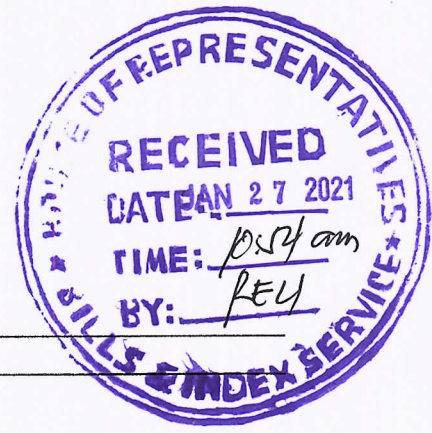


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Introduced by Representative Rufus B. Rodriguez

House Resolution No. 1511

A RESOLUTION

URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF NATIONAL DEFENSE TO RECONSIDER THE UNILATERAL ABROGATION OF THE JUNE 30, 1989 UP-DND ACCORD

WHEREAS, the University of the Philippines-Department of National Defense (UP-DND) Accord was an agreement signed on June 30, 1989 by then-UP president Jose Abueva and then-defense chief Fidel V. Ramos, which down the guidelines and protocols on military and police operations inside the University of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, through a letter dated January 15, 2021, Department of National Defense Secretary Delfin Lorenzana informed UP President Danilo Concepcion that the DND is unilaterally abrogating the agreement;

WHEREAS, said unilateral abrogation was done without prior consultation with officials from the University of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, among the reasons stated in the letter for the abrogation is that the Agreement is a hindrance in providing effective security and safety for the welfare of the students, faculty, and employees of UP and that certain clandestine recruitment activities within UP Campuses and that the Agreement is being used as a "shield" from government law enforcers to conduct Communist recruitment activities;

WHEREAS, in his reply-letter, UP President Concepcion stated that the said Agreement never stood in the way of lawful police and security forces operations within UP Campuses in its 30 years of effectivity, and that the concerns raised by the Defense Secretary could have been properly addressed had there been prior consultations with University Officials;

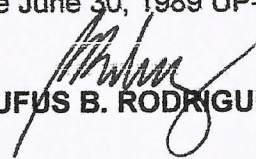
WHEREAS, history has shown that UP has produced trail-blazers in all fields and sectors;

WHEREAS, it is in the State's interest to protect the rights of the institution, its faculty, and students whose exchange of ideas have continuously strengthened our democracy;

WHEREAS, the unilateral decision to abrogate sends a chilling effect on the exercise of the Constitutionally guaranteed rights of academic freedom, freedom of speech and freedom of assembly, which have thrived in UP and could breed mistrust in the government and its uniformed forces;

WHEREAS, scrapping of the agreement could drive political dissenters, who are a minority in the UP community, into extremism, a prospect the DND wants to prevent in its abrogation decision and would be counterintuitive to the goals of the State;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives to urge the Department of National Defense to reconsider the unilateral abrogation of the June 30, 1989 UP-DND Accord.


RUFUS B. RODRIGUEZ