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2 Republic of the Philippines  
3 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**  
4 Quezon City

5 **EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS**  
6 Second Regular Session

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8 **HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 1755**  
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10 **Introduced by**

11 **BAYAN MUNA Representatives EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT,**  
12 **CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE and FERDINAND R. GAITE,**  
13 **GABRIELA Women’s Party Representative ARLENE D. BROSAS,**  
14 **ACT TEACHERS Party-List Representative FRANCE L. CASTRO,**  
15 **and KABATAAN Party-List Representative SARAH JANE I. ELAGO**  
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18 **RESOLUTION**

19 **URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES THROUGH THE COMMITTEE**  
20 **ON HUMAN RIGHTS, TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF**  
21 **LEGISLATION, ON THE SERIES OF ARRESTS AGAINST TWO (2) INDIGENOUS**  
22 **LAND DEFENDERS AND TWO (2) PEASANT LEADERS IN SOUTHERN**  
23 **TAGALOG**

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25 **WHEREAS**, on May 6, 2021, rights group Karapatan-Southern Tagalog reported the arrest of  
26 Garry “Kurontoy” Doroteo and Loreto Bolino, indigenous land defenders from the Dumagat  
27 tribe, and peasant leaders Benito Lucido and Rosita Lucido. According to Karapatan, the four (4)  
28 activists were arrested by the police based on questionable search warrants and planted firearms;  
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30 **WHEREAS**, according to the report, Garry “Kurontoy” Doroteo was arrested at dawn in his  
31 home in Tanay, Rizal. Police reportedly searched his house and allegedly found a .45 caliber pistol  
32 and an improvised explosive device (IED). Doroteo is a Dumagat active in the opposition against  
33 the Kaliwa Dam project in ancestral lands in Sierra Madre mountain ranges in General Nakar and  
34 Tanay. The said project has been widely opposed by indigenous people, residents, and activists  
35 citing environmental destruction, loss of livelihood, and displacement of indigenous people;  
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37 **WHEREAS**, at around 12:45 PM, Loreto Miranda Bolino, another member of the Dumagat tribe  
38 was arrested in Barangay Lumutan, General Nakar, Quezon after police also allegedly found a .45  
39 caliber pistol and two (2) IEDs. According to Karapatan, witnesses saw Bolino being boarded onto  
40 a helicopter by arresting officers;  
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42 **WHEREAS**, at 5 AM on the same day, police arrested Benito and Rosita Lucido in their home in  
43 Brgy. Macabud, Rodriguez, Rizal after operatives allegedly found a .45-caliber pistol, a .9mm  
44 caliber Luger machine pistol, two (2) improvised offensive grenades and an improvised landmine.  
45 They were brought to the Rodriguez Municipal Police Station. Benito is the Chairperson of the

1 Integrated Association of Agrarian Reform Beneficiaries and served as the Chairperson of peasant  
2 organization Anakpawis in 2016;

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4 **WHEREAS**, rights groups have condemned the unlawful arrest of activists by police using  
5 questionable search warrants. Only two (2) months ago, on March 7, police executed search  
6 warrants in simultaneous operations against activists in the Southern Tagalog which left nine (9)  
7 dead and six (6) arrested in what is now known as “Bloody Sunday”;

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9 **WHEREAS**, the recent arrests against activists in Southern Tagalog were carried out only a day  
10 after rights group Karapatan announced it received information on another series of arrests to be  
11 carried out by the police akin to the “Bloody Sunday” incident;

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13 **WHEREAS**, rights groups have repeatedly denounced the use of questionable search warrants  
14 by police and the planting of false evidence to justify the unlawful arrest of activists. According to  
15 international watchdog Human Rights Watch, there has been previous documentation of illegal  
16 planting of evidence by police against Filipinos under the drug war. The United Nations High  
17 Commissioner for Human Rights released a report in June 2020 which found that cases during the  
18 drug war showed recovered guns bearing the same serial numbers from different victims in  
19 different locations, suggesting planting of evidence by police officers. The planting of evidence  
20 has since been used against activists as well. As of December 2020, human rights watchdog  
21 Karapatan estimates that more than 400 political prisoners were arrested under the Duterte  
22 administration over charges of illegal possession of firearms and explosives;

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24 **WHEREAS**, it is imperative for members of Congress, as representatives of our people, to defend  
25 the rights of our people and check on excesses and violations committed against them, especially  
26 in this time of crisis. Laws and rules should serve the interest of our people, and should not be  
27 weaponized to suppress their rights and oppress them;

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29 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the  
30 House of Representatives, through the Committee on Human Rights, conduct an investigation, in  
31 aid of legislation, on series of arrests against two (2) Dumagat land defenders and two (2) peasant  
32 leaders in Southern Tagalog.


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**REP. EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT**  
*Bayan Muna Partylist*

  
**REP. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE**  
*Bayan Muna Partylist*

  
**REP. FERDINAND R. GAITE**  
*Bayan Muna Partylist*

  
**REP. ARIENE D. BROSAS**  
*GABRIELA Women's Party*

  
**REP. FRANCE L. CASTRO**  
*ACT Teachers Partylist*

  
**REP. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO**  
*Kabataan Partylist*