

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 113

Introduced by **Kabataan Party-list Representative SARAH JANE I. ELAGO**

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE HARASSMENT, ARREST, AND FALSE CHARGES VERSUS MYLES ALBASIN AND FIVE OTHER FELLOW YOUNG ACTIVISTS AT SITIO TALINGTING, BRGY. LUYANG, MABINAY, NEGROS ORIENTAL LAST MARCH 3, 2018

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2018, Myles Albasin, 21, Carlo Ybañez, 18, Ajomar Indico, 29, Randel Hermino, 19, Joel Baylosis, 18, and Bernard Guillen, 18 were captured in a military raid by the 62nd Infantry Battalion of the Philippine Army in Sitio Talingting, Brgy. Luyang, Mabinay town, Negros Oriental;

WHEREAS, the military claims that the Negros 6 were fully-armed New People's Army combatants who were captured after a 45-minute firefight but Sitio Talingting residents have come out to say there was no encounter between the NPA and the military in the area and reported hearing only three shots;

WHEREAS, moreover, no one got wounded or even injured in that supposed 45-minute shootout between fully armed government troops and around 20 alleged NPA guerrillas. If they were really NPAs caught shooting it out with government troops, they should have been tested for powder burns and charged with rebellion;

WHEREAS, based on a "fake encounter", Myles and her fellow activists have been falsely charged by the military with illegal possession of several high-powered firearms and explosives, plus some "subversive documents" and subjected to slander and trial by publicity by paid trolls in social media. Contrary to the military's fake claim, none of the Negros 6 are minors;

WHEREAS, the Negros 6 have denied the charges, saying they were unarmed and in the area merely to conduct social investigation on the plight of the local farmers. A local

farmers' organization and Myles' colleagues in the youth group Anakbayan have come forward to corroborate their claim;

WHEREAS, meanwhile, spokesperson of the National Democratic Front (NDF) in Negros Island said last March 8, 2018 that the six persons arrested in Brgy. Luyang, Mabinay, Negros Oriental "are not members of the New People's Army (NPA);"

WHEREAS, the legal counsel and family members of the Negros 6 visited Tuesday morning Negros Oriental Provincial Detention and Rehabilitation Center where they were detained but were harassed and barred from meeting the 6 until a television crew arrived 4 hours later;

WHEREAS, in truth, Myles, a graduate of the University of the Philippines-Cebu, and her fellow youth activists were conducting social research on the situation of farmers suffering from our very own real-life "Hunger Games" of Negros' infamous feudal hacienda system;

WHEREAS, the arrest, detention, frame-up, and filing of trumped-up charges against former Anakbayan - Cebu provincial chapter secretary general Myles Albasin, and her fellow activists is a desperate attempt to deal a big blow to the protest movement now aimed at the fascist Duterte regime;

WHEREAS, Duterte's militarist regime has been so shaken by massive nationwide youth protests in recent weeks and deathly afraid of patriotic youth linking up with the masses of farmers and workers to fight for their democratic rights that it now takes to going after youth activists opposed to Duterte's anti-people policies and accusing them as communist rebels;

WHEREAS, the Duterte regime even uses the fake charges against the Negros 6 to demonize progressive youth, organizations, and activism in general, and to justify direct military monitoring and intervention in universities, thereby stifling academic freedom and suppressing democratic rights inside schools and campuses in the guise of rooting out communist influence;

WHEREAS, but Duterte's fascist campaign of illegal arrests, extrajudicial killings, militarization, and silencing of activists and critics cannot stop the growing mass movement against his tyranny and dictatorial ambitions;

WHEREAS, this latest crime by the cowardly, power-crazed, fascist, dictator-wannabe Duterte will only push the Filipino youth and people to meet his repressive rule with even bigger protests, mass organizing, and resistance.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the House Committee on Human Rights conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, on the harassment, illegal arrest, and false charges versus Myles Albasin and five other

fellow young activists at Sitio Talingting, Brgy. Luyang, Mabinay, Negros Oriental last March 3, 2018.

Adopted,



Rep. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO
Kabataan Party-list