Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 1035

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

RESOLUTION
EXPRESSING THE COLLECTIVE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF
REPRESENTATIVES IN CONDEMNING THE RED-TAGGING OF FORMER
HOUSE MEMBER SIEGFRED DEDURO BY THE PHILIPPINE ARMY'S 3RD
INFANTRY DIVISION THEREBY ENDANGERING HIS LIFE AND LIBERTY

WHEREAS, in a meeting of the Regional Peace and Order Council held in Casa Real, Iloilo City on 19 June 2020, the Philippine Army's 3rd Infantry Division (3rd ID) mentioned the name of former House member Siegfried D. Deduro in its presentation of terrorists in the region;

WHEREAS, the 3rd ID presentation falsely named Deduro as a high-ranking member of the Communist Party (CPP) Komiteng Rehiyon-Panay, a revolutionary underground organization. The grave accusation comes despite his active and visible participation in national and local affairs as a civic leader and activist;

WHEREAS, Deduro is the vice president for Visayas of the Makabayan Coalition of progressive partylist groups that currently occupied six (6) seats in the 18th Congress of the House of Representatives. Concurrently, he is also the vice president for Visayas of Bayan Muna Partylist. He is founding member to both political organizations;

WHEREAS, Deduro was also a member of the 12th Congress of the House of Representatives under Bayan Muna Partylist. He also became a consultant of the Department of Agrarian Reform under then Sec. Rafael Mariano in 2017;

WHEREAS, aside from his political affiliations and government service, Deduro is also a seasoned activist and development worker. In 1998, he was the founding secretary-general of the Madla-as Ecological Movement that led the successful resistance against the entry of commercial mining in Panay Island. He also became the manager for five (5) years of the Panay Fair Trade Corporation, which became the biggest exporter of muscovado sugar in Panay, and, a major partner of the global fair trade network. He was also a claimant of the Human Rights Victims Reparation and Recognition Act of 2013, that recognized the human rights abuses suffered under the Marcos Martial Law;
WHEREAS, being tagged as a communist or a terrorist has dire implication to life and liberty. Numerous extrajudicial killings, illegal arrest and detention, and even enforced disappearances follow such accusations. Recently, last 30 April, Bayan Muna Iloilo City Coordinator Jory Porquia was murdered in cold blood following a series of vilification and red-tagging incidents by suspected state agents against his person;

WHEREAS, the direct false accusation of the military that Deduro is high-ranking member of the CPP in the region also comes after a series of vilification campaigns. In 11 December 2018, Deduro and other leaders of progressive organizations found their photos peppering the city centers of Iloilo City, naming them as "puppets of the CPP/NPA (New People’s Army:"
Another wave of the same posters resurfaced around Iloilo City on 16 March 2019;

WHEREAS, the red-tagging of opposition members—to terrify them of harm, arrest, or worse—is meant to silence dissent. Intolerance of government to opposing ideas and criticism is fatal to democracy, and a violation of the rights our people protected by the constitution;

WHEREAS, former congressman Siegfried Deduro is only among the many activists, critics, civic leaders, lawyers, Church people, and other Filipinos aspiring for genuine democracy, justice, and good governance who are under attack. As members of the House of Representatives, we are obligated to vanguard democratic institutions and the rights and freedoms of our people. We must stand firm for democracy, justice, and peace;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives express its collective sense of condemnation on the red-tagging of former House member Siegfred D. Deduro by the Philippine Army’s 3rd Infantry Division thereby endangering his life and liberty.

Adopted,

REP. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE
Bayan Muna Partylist

REP. FERDINAND R. GAITE
Bayan Muna Partylist

REP. EUFEMIA C. CULLAMAT
Bayan Muna Partylist
REP. FRANCE L. CASTRO
ACT Teachers Partylist

REP. ARLENE D. BROSAS
GABRIELLA Women's Party

REP. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO
Kabataan Partylist