Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City  

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
Second Regular Session  

HOUSE RESOLUTION No. 1400  

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

RESOLUTION  
URGING THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THROUGH THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS, TO INVESTIGATE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, THE ILLEGAL SEARCH AND HARASSMENT AGAINST PEASANT LEADER ISABELO “BUTING” ADVIENTO IN BRGY. CARUPIAN, BAGGAO, CAGAYAN PROVINCE  

WHEREAS, peasant organization Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas (KMP) reported that on December 2, 2020, at midnight, around 100 armed soldiers arrived at the residence of peasant leader Isabelo “Buting” Adviento in Brgy. Carupian, Baggao, Cagayan Province. At around 3:30 AM, the soldiers reportedly destroyed the gate of Adviento’s residence, forceful entered the premises and ordered everyone inside the house to come out. Adviento’s wife Lina, reportedly saw the soldiers place two (2) bags beside a chair in the living room and saw that it contained guns, grenades, and bullets. It was only at around 6 AM that elements of the Philippine National Police (PNP) – Baggao arrived at the area with a search warrant. Police also arrested Richard Dagohoy, a member of the Baggao Farmers Association. He was released after a few hours. The homes of other peasant leaders in the area were also searched. The CCTV near Adviento’s residence was tampered and its SD card was taken;  

WHEREAS, Adviento is the leader of Danggayan Dagiti Mannalon ti Cagayan Valley, the regional chapter of KMP. He is also the regional coordinator of Anakpawis Partylist. Just before his arrest, Adviento had been arranging relief missions all over Cagayan province for farmers heavily affected by the recent typhoons which flooded crops and devastated homes. As a long-time peasant leader Adviento has been the victim of repeated red-tagging by armed state forces. Danggayan Cagayan also reported that throughout the pandemic, fliers, posters, and streamers were placed along Maharlika highway red-tagging and vilifying legitimate farmers’ organizations;  

WHEREAS, the illegal search of Adviento’s residence and the arrest of Dagohoy were made only hours after a senate hearing on red-tagging where Adviento’s organization, the Kilusang Magbubukid ng Pilipinas, along with other organizations, was accused of being a front organization
of the Communist Party of the Philippines by the National Task Force to End Local Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC);

WHEREAS, attacks against farmers and land defenders have intensified since the issuance of Executive Order 70 in 2018 establishing the National Task Force to End Local Communist Armed Conflict (NTF-ELCAC). The task force has been notorious for terror-tagging farmers, indigenous people, and activists from different sectors to justify harassment, illegal arrests, and even extrajudicial killings. According to rights group Karapatan, from July 2016 to August 2020, there have been at least 264 peasant victims of extrajudicial killings and at least 973 illegal arrests and detention against farmers and other sectors;

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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, on the illegal search and harassment against peasant leader Isabelo “Buting” Adviento in Brgy. Carupian, Baggao, Cagayan province.

Adopted,

REP. EUGENIA C. CULLAMAT
Bayan Muna Partylist

REP. CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE
Bayan Muna Partylist

REP. ARLENE D. BROSAS
Gabriela Women’s Party

REP. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO
Kabataan Partylist

REP. FERDINAND R. GAITE
Bayan Muna Partylist

REP. FRANCISCO L. CASTRO
ACT Teachers Partylist