Rep. of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
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House Resolution No. 1552

INTRODUCED BY
REPRESENTATIVES ALLEN JESSE C. MANGAOANG, MAXIMO Y. DALOG JR., ERIC GO YAP, SOLOMON R. CHUNGALAO AND ELIAS C. BULUT, JR.

A RESOLUTION CONDEMNING THE ERRONEOUS PORTRAYALS OF IGOROTS IN TEXTBOOKS, LEARNING MODULES AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS, AND DIRECTING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO MAKE A THOROUGH REVIEW OF ALL TEXTBOOKS, LEARNING MODULES AND INSTRUCTIONAL MATERIALS AND CORRECT ANY TEXT WHICH DEPICT IN A DISCRIMINATORY WAY IGOROTS AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND TO INSTRUCT THE AUTHORS AND PUBLISHERS OF THESE MATERIALS TO WITHDRAW THEM FROM CIRCULATION TO STOP THE PERPETUATION OF THIS MISLEADING NOTION AND TO PREVENT FURTHER DISCRIMINATION

WHEREAS, Section 31 of Republic Act No. 8371 otherwise known as the Indigenous Peoples Rights Act (IPRA) of 1997 provides:

SECTION 31. Recognition of Cultural Diversity. — The State shall endeavor to have the dignity and diversity of the cultures, traditions, histories and aspirations of the ICCs/IPs appropriately reflected in all forms of education, public information and cultural-educational exchange. Consequently, the State shall take effective measures, in consultation with ICCs/IPs concerned, to eliminate prejudice and discrimination and to promote tolerance, understanding and good relations among ICCs/IPs and all segments of society. Furthermore, the Government shall take effective measures to ensure that the State-owned media duly reflect indigenous cultural diversity. The State shall likewise ensure the participation of appropriate indigenous leaders in schools, communities and international cooperative undertakings like festivals, conferences, seminars and workshops to promote and enhance their distinctive heritage and values.
WHEREAS, some learning modules and instructional materials containing erroneous information and portrayal of Igorots have circulated online and became viral, drawing flak from the Indigenous Peoples throughout the Cordillera Region.

WHEREAS, in the said learning modules being circulated online, Igorots continue to be maligned very incorrectly because of their physical appearance, fashion, attire and capacity to finish a sound education.

WHEREAS, such portrayals and descriptions of the Igorots have immeasurably alarmed, offended and annoyed the people in the Cordillera.

WHEREAS, through this incorrect information, Igorots continue to suffer discrimination and if not immediately corrected, erroneous notion of mainstream Filipinos about the Igorots or the Indigenous Peoples of the Cordillera Region will be perpetuated and may result to further discrimination and abuse.

WHEREAS, as the institution for basic education, it is the responsibility of the Department of Education to have textbooks, instructional materials and learning modules which contain texts that “eliminate prejudice and discrimination and to promote tolerance, understanding and good relations among ICCs/IPs and all segments of society.”

WHEREAS, the Department of Education should ensure that textbooks, instructional materials and learning modules provide accurate information.

WHEREAS, it should be the policy of the Department of Education to help in creating awareness of the Indigenous Peoples' identity and culture and be part of the system that correct the misleading notions on IPs rather than perpetuating and ignoring them.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the House of Representatives to condemn the erroneous portrayals of the Igorots and Indigenous Peoples in textbooks, learning modules and instructional materials, and to direct the Department of Education to make a thorough review of all textbooks, instructional materials and learning modules and correct any text which depict in a discriminatory way Igorots and Indigenous Peoples.
LET IT BE FURTHER RESOLVED, as it is further resolved, to instruct the authors and publishers of these materials to withdraw them from circulation, make the necessary corrections and consult with the appropriate agencies and indigenous cultural communities to stop the perpetuation of this misleading notion and to prevent further discrimination.

APPROVED,

HON. ALLEN JESSE C. MANGAOANG

HON. MAXIMO Y. DALOG JR.

HON. ERIC GO YAP

HON. SOLOMON R. CHUNGALAO

HON. ELIAS C. BULUT, JR.