Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City, Metro Manila  

Eighteenth Congress  
Third Regular Session  

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 2117  

INTRODUCED BY THE HONORABLE REPRESENTATIVES DAN S. FERNANDEZ AND ALLEN JESSE C. MANGAOANG  

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON INDIGENOUS CULTURAL COMMUNITIES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CREATIVE INDUSTRY AND PERFORMING ARTS TO JOINTLY CONDUCT AN IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE ALLEGED EXPLOITATION OF RENOWNED FILIPINO TATTOO ARTIST APO WHANG-OD BY POPULAR PALESTINIAN-ISRAELI VLOGGER NUSEIR YASSIN OF NAS DAILY  

WHEREAS, Apo Whang-Od is a well-known member of the Butbut community in Kalinga province and has been known for her mastery of Kalinga’s tattooing practice;  

WHEREAS, Nuseir Yassin of Nas Daily is a popular Palestinian-Israeli vlogger;  

WHEREAS, Ms. Gracia Palicas, Whang Od’s grandniece, came out in public to assail Nas Daily for allegedly “taking advantage” of the Igorot culture when the vlogger Yassin created the Whang Od Academy that offered courses on traditional tattoo making;  

WHEREAS, Whang Od reportedly consented to the deal by affixing her thumbmark to a contract prepared by Nas Daily; but questions have been raised about the fairness of the contract stipulations;  

WHEREAS, a congressional inquiry is needed that will focus on the allegations that Yassin had manipulated Apo Whang Od into agreeing into a one-sided contract for the vlogger’s website;  

WHEREAS, the main purpose of a congressional probe is to determine whether or not Filipino artists are sufficiently protected by law against exploitative practices;  

WHEREAS, the Whang Od - Nas Daily controversy has also brought to the fore the need for the State to carry out programs that will not only further develop the skills and artistic talents of Filipinos but also extend to them financial assistance;
WHEREAS, Filipino native artists, like Apo Whang Od, can only be encouraged to perfect their craft, if the government is able to afford them protection and financially support their industry; and

WHEREAS, the participation of the indigenous cultural communities and the indigenous peoples panel in the probe is vitally important: NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED TO DIRECT THE COMMITTEE ON INDIGENOUS CULTURAL COMMUNITIES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES AND THE SPECIAL COMMITTEE ON CREATIVE INDUSTRY AND PERFORMING ARTS TO JOINTLY CONDUCT AN IMMEDIATE INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE ALLEGED EXPLOITATION OF RENOWNED FILIPINO TATTOO ARTIST APO WHANG-OD BY POPULAR PALESTINIAN-ISRAELI VLOGGER NUSEIR YASSIN OF NAS DAILY.

Adopted,

DAN S. FERNANDEZ

ALLEN JESSE C. MANGAOANG