



SPPR NO. 1718 - _____

RESOLUTION RESPECTFULLY REQUESTING THE CHAIR OF THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC INFORMATION, HONORABLE SENATOR GRACE POE, TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE PROLIFERATION OF "FAKE NEWS" AFFECTING THE COMMONWEAL OF THE PUBLIC

HON. JOSE EDMAR J. YUMANG – AUTHOR/SPONSOR

WHEREAS, one of the best benefits of democracy is the people's right to access information especially on matters of public concern, as enshrined under Section 7, Article III, Bill of Rights of the 1987 Philippine Constitution;

WHEREAS, as the Filipino nation witnesses events unfolding the bloody uprising in Marawi City destroying many lives and properties, public information on the matter entails extra careful handling most especially on the side of the government inasmuch as it can affect the safety and security of all affected civilians, the military and law enforcers, and all concerned people taking charge in the besieged region of the country;

WHEREAS, this Sangguniang Panlungsod expressed its concern when the Department of Justice acted as a benefactor of "fake news" which stemmed from an uncorroborated pronouncement linking some public officials to the abovementioned terror attack, thereby showing a photo of the supposed meeting of certain lawmakers and other personalities to the mass audience, as covered by several TV networks and radio stations nationwide;

WHEREAS, this incident ignited criticisms to the head of the country's principal law agency, more so, it may probably cause the people's loss of trust to the institution mandated to serve as the legal counsel and the prosecution arm of the Philippine government;

WHEREAS, such information fiasco cannot be ignored considering that even prominent lawmakers and personalities can be easily branded by influential government officials as "in cahoots with the terrorists", which can also makes every ordinary Filipino citizen all the more vulnerable;

WHEREAS, the proliferation of "fake news" committed by several public officials, further sends an alarming signal to the public because it is inconsistent with the noble principles of transparency, accountability, fairness and truth" that the public offices are supposed to advocate;

WHEREAS, a Senate inquiry on the matter can further shed light as to the restitution of integrity for the people wrongly branded as government adversaries, and the restoration of public trust to the public office;

NOW, THEREFORE, on motion of City Councilor Jose Edmar J. Yumang, duly seconded by City Councilors _____, be it -

RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved, to respectfully request the Chair of the Senate Committee on Public Information, Honorable Senator Grace Poe, to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation on the proliferation of "fake news" affecting the commonweal of the public.

Prepared by:

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