



ASSOCIATED STUDENTS SAN JOSÉ STATE UNIVERSITY

Associated Students, SJSU, Board of Directors' Resolution 20/21-2 ENDORISING THE PHILIPPINE HUMAN RIGHTS ACT (PHRA)

- Whereas,** it is the mission of Associated Students of San José State University to represent the students of San José State University and continually improve the quality of their educational opportunity and experience; and
- Whereas,** Associated Students (A.S.) is the official voice of over 33,000 students at San José State University (SJSU); and
- Whereas,** there are an estimated 1.6 million Filipinx living in the state of California, making the Filipinx community the largest Asian Pacific Islander identifying population statewide; and
- Whereas,** there are more than 90,000 Filipinx residing in the County of Santa Clara, with SJSU being the home for thousands of Filipinx students, faculty, staff, and alumni; many of which continue to have close ties with friends and family in the Philippines¹; and
- Whereas,** the July 2020 passage of the Philippine Anti-Terror Law expands the definition of terrorism to become increasingly broad and vague, criminalizes “terroristic intent” and opens the door to abusive interpretations and subjective discretion, while also removing safeguard provisions in existing law that enforces accountability or unfounded charges of misconduct by the government or its state security forces²; and
- Whereas,** the provisions of the Anti-Terror Law includes wiretapping without notice, arrest without warrant, and detention up to 24 days, which goes beyond the limit prescribed by the Philippine Constitution³; and
- Whereas,** the Philippine Anti-Terror Law has deeply alarmed the United Nations Human Rights Council and emboldened the open fascism of the Duterte regime, leading to

¹ [CSSA presentation](#)

² <https://humanrightsp.org/the-anti-terror-law>



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extrajudicial killings, tagging of dissenters as terrorists, the vilification of dissent, and unlawful detentions³; and

Whereas, the Philippine federal government and security forces are putting Filipinx lives and Filipinx allies' lives at risk both domestically and abroad, by labeling those who critique the Duterte administration and the Anti-Terror Law as terrorists and enemies of the state⁴; and

Whereas, an assassination attempt was conducted against San Francisco State's alumnus Brandon Lee on August 6th, 2019, due to his advocacy work defending human rights and promoting Indigenous peoples rights as a community journalist and environmentalist⁵; and

Whereas, on September 20, 2019, the San Francisco County Board of Supervisors enacted Resolution File No. 190909 in condemning the attempted assassination of San Francisco native and the United States citizen Brandon Lee in the Philippines; urging the initiation of a Congressional investigation into the shooting of Lee; urging for a Congressional hearing on the consequences of United States tax dollars going to the Philippine military and police, and advocating for the suspension of United States aid to the Duterte regime until Lee's case is resolved and the perpetrators are brought to justice⁶; and

Whereas, in a letter authored by Rep. Jan Schakowsky, 50 Congressional Representatives across the United States have condemned the Anti-Terror Law; including national Representatives Ilhan Omar and Alexandria Ocasio Cortez, California based Representatives such as Judy Chu -- the Chair of the Asia Pacific American Caucus, and Barbara Lee -- a senior member on the House Appropriations Committee, as well

³ <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=25924>

⁴ https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2020-08-27/philippines-zara-alvarez-human-rights?fbclid=IwAR1-t3MaoLmhXxaFB6Kkq-76rn8D-SILeb24_EWoZTq6uShbTfD4Toexy1I

⁵ <https://www.kqed.org/news/11813954/sf-activist-shot-in-the-philippines-recovering-in-hometown-but-cant-find-aff>

⁶ <https://sfgov.legistar.com/View.ashx?M=F&ID=7685299&GUID=EE7C7723-B982-4F50-B614-BD760402961B>



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as other Bay Area Representatives such as Congresswoman Anna Eshoo, Congresswoman Jackie Speier, and Congressman Eric Swalwell⁷; and

Whereas, with U.S. tax dollars being directed to Philippine security assistance instead of paying for students' own domestic education, student's mental health is impacted due to the fear of financial instability; the fear of having their U.S. tax dollars being potentially complicit in the Philippine human rights violations happening abroad; and the constant fear for the individual safety and security of themselves as well as their friends and family in the Philippines.

Whereas, the following student and community organizations have endorsed a sign-on letter⁸ or drafted their own letter⁹ condemning the many forms of human rights violations occurring in the Philippines, denouncing the Anti-Terror Law, and supporting a resolution for SJSU Associated Students to endorse the Philippine Human Rights Act (PHRA):

Kabataan Alliance SJSU, Akbayan SJSU, Alpha Kappa Omicron (*Gamma Chapter*), Alpha Kappa Omega (*Beta Chapter*), Vietnamese Student Association, Zeta Chi Epsilon, Northern California Pilipinx American Student Alliance, Malaya Southbay, LEAD Filipino, Mosaic Cross-Cultural Center, and APID/A Task Force

Whereas, the Philippine Human Rights Act (PHRA) calls for the suspension of "United States security assistance to the Philippines until such time as human rights violations by Philippine security forces cease and responsible state forces are held accountable"¹⁰; therefore, be it

Resolved, That SJSU's Associated stands in solidarity with the thousands of Filipinx students, faculty, staff, and alumni and all those advancing the cause for human rights in the Philippines throughout the CSU community; and let it be further;

⁷ <https://static1.squarespace.com/static/5ebd6cd50c128360664cb9bd/t/5f0f6776722c7d6c3e9df79a/1594845046597/7.15.2020+FINAL+Letter+to+Philippines+Ambassador+re+Anti-terrorism+Law+Concerns+w+letterhead.pdf>

⁸ <https://drive.google.com/file/d/12t1rQ5N4g628xCgdvC0G7fTMiAKnlo3v/view?usp=sharing>

⁹ https://drive.google.com/file/d/1fWmROiKgPptOUjfecWKiPF4Cf8BB_Egb/view?usp=sharing

¹⁰ <https://humanrightsp.org/about>



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- Resolved,*** That SJSU's Associated Students condemns Duterte's drug war, the targeting and harassment of activists, extrajudicial killings, the vilifying of dissent, unlawful detention, and other human rights violations; and let it be further
- Resolved,*** That SJSU's Associated Students condemn the overall human rights violations and extrajudicial killings occurring in the Philippines; and let it be further;
- Resolved,*** That SJSU's Associated Students supports the usage of U.S. taxpayer money to the Philippines on social services, housing, education, and healthcare instead of military aid, including weapons and aerial bombs and surveillance, to the Philippines military and police;
- Resolved,*** That SJSU's Associated Students stands in opposition and condemns the Anti-Terror Law (ATL); and let it be further;
- Resolved,*** That SJSU's Associated Students gives endorsed support to the Philippine Human Rights Act (PHRA); and let it be further;
- Resolved,*** That that by endorsing the Philippine Human Rights Act (PHRA), SJSU's Associated Students permits the usage of its name and logo on the campaign website, and will be supportive of lobbying efforts with local elected officials, as well as providing resources and support for the campaign (i.e., mobilization of membership, staff, venue, supplies, in-kind) as available; and let it be further;
- Resolved,*** That SJSU's Associated Students will call upon Congressional Representatives to introduce the Philippine Human Rights Act (PHRA) and call for a congressional hearing on the human rights situation in the Philippines with the U.S. House Foreign Affairs Committee; and let it be further;
- Resolved,*** That SJSU's Associated Students condemns U.S. taxpayer money funding military aid to the Philippine military and police and advocates for the suspension of said military aid until human rights violations in the Philippines cease and the responsible state forces have been held accountable; and



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Resolved, That Associated Students will make this document public and will forward this resolution to all affected parties, including: all board members of the **CSU Board of Trustees, Timothy White** (*Chancellor, CSU*), **Mary Papazian** (*President of San José State University*), **Lisa Millora** (*Vice President for Strategy and Chief of Staff*), **Patrick Day** (*Vice President for Student Affairs*), **Kathleen Wong** (*Chief Diversity Officer, Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion*), **Theresa Davis** (*Vice President for University Advancement*), **Vincent Del Casino** (*Provost of San José State University*), **Charlie Faas** (*Vice President of Administration and Finance*), **Gavin Newsom** (*Governor, California*), **California State Student Association Board of Directors**, **Ro Khanna** (*U.S. Congressman, 17th District*), **Zoe Lofgren** (*U.S. Congresswoman, 19th District*), **Jim Beall** (*CA State Senator, 15th District*), **Ash Kalra** (*CA State Assemblyman, 27th District*), **Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors**, **Cindy Chavez** (*Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors President, District 2*), **Raul Peralez** (*San José Councilmember, District 3*), **Sam Liccardo** (*Mayor, San José*), **The Spartan Daily**, **San José Mercury News**

Respectfully submitted by:
Kadence Skye Walker, Director of Legislative Affairs
A.S. Lobby Corps

Supported by:
Zobeida Delgadillo, A.S. President

**Passed and Adopted by the Associated Students of San José State University
Board of Directors at a regular meeting held September 9, 2020 by a vote of
11-Yea 0-Nay 0-Abstention 0-Absent**

DocuSigned by:

Brendan Quock

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9/16/2020

Brendan Quock, Vice President and Chair
Associated Students, SJSU

Date