



Rep. Vicente Veloso, et. al., dapat maglinis ng pangalan!

INSPIRASYONSABUHAY: "... Ang inyong mga pinuno ay mapaghimagsik at mga rebelde, kasabwat nila ang mga magnanakaw... naghahabol sila ng mga suhol at mga regalo..." (Isaias 1:23, Bibliya).

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MGA NARCO-POLITICIANS, NAGKARON NG BANTA SA KANILANG MGA BUHAY: Mabigat ang kinakaharap na problema ng mga pulitikong kasama ang mga pangalan sa listahan ng diumano ay sangkot sa pagtutalak ng ilegal na droga sa bansa. Pangunahin dito ay ang malaking posibilidad na kumilos ang kanilang mga kalaban upang sila ay likidahan o patayin, at ibintang ang pagpatay sa kanila sa mga sindikato sa droga.

Ganundin, dahil ang Pangulong Duterte mismo ang nagbigay-pahintulot sa pag-

papalabas ng listahan, tiyak na sira na din ang political career ng mga pulitikong ito, kasi hindi na din sila susuportahan ng mga botanteng patuloy na kumakatig at sumasangayon sa mga pagkilos ni Duterte kontra sa droga.

Sa ganitong madilim na pangitain para sa mga pulitikong kasama sa listahan, mas makakabuti para sa kanila ang umalis na lamang sa bansa at magpalamig, kumbaga, sa ibang mga lugar na hindi abot ng kapangyarihan ni Duterte, o di kaya naman ay tumigil na muna sila sa pulitika. Mahirap sumugal sa kasalukuyan, sa totoo lang.

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REP. VICENTE VELOSO, ET. AL. DAPAT MAGLINIS NG PANGALAN: Isa sa mga nakakabiglang pangalan sa listahan ng mga pulitikong sangkot sa droga

batay sa narco-list ng Pangulong Duterte ay ang pangalan ni Leyte 3rd District Rep. Vicente "Ching" Veloso. Bago naging kongresista si Ching Veloso, isa siya sa mga itinuturing na kontrobersiyal na mga mahistrado sa Court of Appeals, sa maraming kadahilanan.

Sino ba naman ang mag-aakalang ang isang dating Court of Appeals justice at nakaupong kongresistang gaya ni Rep. Vicente "Ching" Veloso ay itinuturing pala ng gobyernong Duterte bilang pulitikong sangkot sa droga, o isang salot sa sambayanan?

Sa ngayon, kailangan talagang magkumahog si Ching Veloso upang malinis ang kaniyang pangalan,

di na lamang sa isyu ng ilegal na droga, kundi sa mga kontrobersiyang ikinabit noon sa kaniyang katayuan bilang Court of Appeals justice. Hindi na sapat ang mga patutsada niya sa sa Philippine National Police na maglabas ang kapulisan ng ebidensiya laban sa kaniya. Si Ching Veloso na ngayon ang dapat magpatunay na malinis siya. Ganundin ang iba pang kasama niya sa narco-list.

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MGA CUSTOMERS NG TUBIG, KONSUMIDONG-KONSUMIDO NA: Napansin niyo ba ang ginagamit na salita ng mga water concessionaires sa Metro Manila at maging ng maraming media outlets upang is-

alarawan ang mga customers ng mga concessionaires na ito? Sabi nila, ang mga consumers nila na nakakaranas ngayon ng kawalan ng tubig bagamat mayroon pa namang sapat na supply ng tubig ay mga "konsumidores".

Di man nabigyan ng wastong pansin ng mga customers ang pagtawag sa kanila ng mga Metro Manila water concessionaires bilang "konsumidores", masasabi kong akmang-akma ang salitang "konsumidores" sa mga customers na hindi na nararasyunan ng tubig ng halos isang linggo na sa ngayon. Bakit kanyo?

Sa totoo lang, ang mga water customers ngayon na nakakaranas ng kawalan

ng tubig na mainom ay tunay namang konsumidong-konsumido na, sa kapalakan ng serbisyo ng kanilang water provider. Dahil konsumido na ang mga customers sa ngayon, akma ang pangalan nilang "konsumidores"---o customers na konsumidong-konsumido na sa lakas ng konsumisyong kanilang nararanasan. Ang payo ko sa mga "konsumidores" na ito, sampahan na nila ng kaso ang mga concessionaires, kasama ang mga opisyal ng gobyerno na may kinalaman sa tubig.

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REAKSIYON? Tawag po sa 0917 984 24 68, 0918 574 0193 o 0933 825 13 08. E m a i l : batasmauricio@yahoo.com.

Stop acting as lawyers, House leaders tell Sotto, Lacson

MANILA -- Senior House leaders on Thursday called on Senate President Vicente Sotto III and Senator Panfilo Lacson to stop acting as lawyers and refrain from concocting fabricated charges to put the House of Representatives in a bad light.

In a statement, House Deputy Minority Leader Rep. Anthony Bravo said both Sotto and Lacson are now confused with their roles.

"They have stopped acting as legislators and now want to assume the role of lawyers for the Senate. I am sorry to say this, but they are poor actors and can hardly pass as legal aides," he said.

While admitting that he is not a lawyer himself, the COOP-NATCCO party-list lawmaker said he finds it amusing that an actor-comedian and a former police general have the temerity to accuse House leaders who were in charge of budget legislation of resorting to criminal acts in passing the 2019 General Appropriations Act.

"May I remind Sotto and Lacson that the House leaders who steered the approval of the 2019 GAA are mostly lawyers and accountants. These are all experts in all phases of the budget process -- from budget preparation, authorization, execution, up to budget accountability," Bravo said.

He said Sotto and Lacson should also discuss with their colleagues in the Senate on what criminal

charges they plan to file against Speaker Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo and other House members for itemizing the lump sum allocations in the national budget.

"First, they charge the Speaker with violation of the Constitution. Next, they come up with the charge of falsification of legislative documents. If these two senators will not stop acting as prosecutors, then I will advise the Speaker to stay home after dark lest they decide to charge her next with vagrancy," Bravo said in jest.

Bravo said instead of grandstanding before the media, it would be better for Sotto and Lacson to heed the advice of the chief of the Senate's Legislative Budget Research and Management Office (LBMRO), Director General Yolanda Dublon.

"Ms. Dublon maintains that there is nothing unconstitutional, illegal or irregular in itemizing the lump sum allocations in the national budget even after both chambers ratified the bicameral conference report. She made this position clear in front of President Rodrigo Duterte during his meeting with Senate and House leaders last Tuesday night," he said.

"That is the reason why the President does not buy Sotto's earlier position that the House leaders committed an unconstitutional act in itemizing the lump sum

allocation," Bravo said.

Deputy Speaker Prospero Pichay, meanwhile, told Lacson to stop acting "like a Supreme Court."

"Senator Ping, stop playing the Supreme Court by saying the budget is unconstitutional, because it is only the Supreme Court that can make such pronouncement," the Surigao del Sur lawmaker said.

"If you believe it is unconstitutional, then file a case and question it. It is only when the Supreme Court declares it to be unconstitutional, that it is unconstitutional," Pichay said.

He also urged Lacson to set aside his "deep-rooted" anger towards Arroyo so that the budget would be passed for the sake of the country.

Pichay noted that the senator's anger toward the former president might have blinded him from the fact that the House of Representatives is a collegial body just like the Senate.

"Any act of the Speaker, especially in the signing of bills and other forms of legislation, is an act of the House of Representatives as a whole. If she is liable, then majority of the members are equally liable because we authorized her to do it," he said.

"Senator Ping, for the sake of the country, and for the sake of President Duterte, who had called upon Congress to act on it swiftly

otherwise the economy and the welfare of the Filipino people will suffer, set aside mo muna ang rage mo kay Speaker," Pichay said.

On the other hand, House Majority Floor Leader Fredenil Castro said the maneuverings of Sotto and Lacson appear like they wanted President Duterte to fail.

"It seems that Senator Ping Lacson is holding President Duterte and the entire Filipino people hostage to his continuing animosity towards our Speaker. He has obviously convinced the Senate leadership to do his bidding," Castro said.

The Capiz lawmaker pointed out that while the House has itemized the lump sum appropriations in their realignments, the Senate has failed to explain where they put their own realignments.

These include the PHP2.5 billion they took from the National Greening Project; the PHP3 billion they removed from Technical Education and Skills Development Authority scholarships; the PHP11 billion for right of way of projects for the President's "Build, Build, Build" program; and the PHP2.5 billion funding for foreign assisted projects, among others.

"The Senate removed all those allocations and we don't know where they put them. The senators need to explain where they put these allocations," Castro said.

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email:
northsouthjournal2018@gmail.com
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MANILA OFFICE: 372 Real St. cor. San Antonio Valley 17, Talon 1, Las Piñas City, (beside Brgy. Hall)
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