

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

**TWENTIETH CONGRESS**  
First Regular Session

House Resolution No. 305



Introduced by Honorable Representatives  
**Gabriela Women's Party Rep. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO,**  
**KABATAAN Party-list Rep. RENEE LOUISE M. CO, and**  
**ACT Teachers Party-list Rep. ANTONIO L. TINIO**

**A RESOLUTION**

**URGING THE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS TO IMMEDIATELY CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE POLICE BRUTALITY, ALLEGED TORTURE, AND OTHER HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS COMMITTED AGAINST PROTESTERS, MINORS, AND MEDIA WORKERS DURING AND AFTER THE ANTI-CORRUPTION PROTEST ACTION IN MENDIOLA ON SEPTEMBER 21, 2025**

**WHEREAS**, on September 21, 2025, a protest action against the widespread corruption in the country was violently dispersed by elements of the Manila Police District (MPD) and other anti-riot units at Mendiola and surrounding areas, resulting in the mass arrest of at least 216 demonstrators, including 67 children in conflict with the law (above 15 but below 18) and 24 children at risk (15 and below) according to reports;

**WHEREAS**, the National Union of People's Lawyers (NUPL), through Atty. Julianne Agpalo, reported that widespread and systematic physical abuse and torture occurred while the arrested protesters were under police custody, including bruises on the faces and bodies of minors and incidents where detainees were allegedly forced to physically assault or restrain each other inside a police tent in Mendiola and at MPD facilities;

**WHEREAS**, one protester was reportedly rushed to Jose Reyes Memorial Hospital with a fractured jaw after a violent arrest, captured on video showing anti-riot police dropping the protester to the ground, while a separate surfaced video shows a minor being dragged inside SOGO Hotel by a SWAT officer and beaten by hotel staff;

**WHEREAS**, among those arrested was Alexis "Chokoy" Lasic, a person with disability, who witnesses say was merely standing near a parked jeepney with senior citizens when he was seized, kicked, and violently arrested despite not engaging in any aggressive act;

**WHEREAS**, a photojournalist, Zedrich Xylak Madrid, covering the protest was reportedly grabbed and struck by police officers while performing his duties as a member of the press, a direct assault on press freedom;

**WHEREAS**, police forces were documented using tear gas and clubs to chase demonstrators, and separate reports indicated that a man died of a gunshot wound amid the chaos;

**WHEREAS**, despite these disturbing accounts, Philippine National Police (PNP) Acting Chief Police Lt. Gen. Jose Melencio Nartatez Jr. claimed that the incident was “a clear case of brutality against our police,” while the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG) Secretary Jonvic Remulla asserted that “no force was used against the protesters,” creating an alarming narrative gap that demands impartial investigation;

**WHEREAS**, Article II, Section 11 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution declares that the State values the dignity of every human person and guarantees full respect for human rights, while Article XIII, Section 18 (7) mandates the Commission on Human Rights (CHR) to investigate human rights violations involving civil and political rights.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved, that the House of Representatives strongly urges the Committee on Human Rights to conduct an immediate, independent, and transparent investigation into the reported police brutality and excessive use of force, alleged torture, and other human rights violations committed against protesters, minors, and media workers during and after the Mendiola protest on September 21, 2025;

**RESOLVED FURTHER**, that the House of Representatives call upon the Department of the Interior and Local Government, the Philippine National Police, and the Manila Police District to fully cooperate with the CHR investigation and to submit all arrest records, and operational reports relevant to the September 21 dispersal and subsequent detention of protesters;

**RESOLVED FINALLY**, that the Committee on Human Rights be directed to conduct an immediate investigation, in aid of legislation, on the police brutality, alleged torture, and other human rights violations committed against protesters, minors, and media workers during and after the anti-corruption protest action in Mendiola on September 21, 2025.

*Adopted.*

  
**SARAH JANE I. ELAGO**  
*Gabriela Women's Party*

  
**RENEE LOUISE M. CO**  
*KABATAAN Party-list*

  
**ANTONIO L. TINIO**  
*ACT Teachers Party-list*