OFFICE OF THE SECHETARY

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC) OF THE PHILIPPINES) Second Regular Session)

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SENATE P. S. R. No. **1013**

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED NEED TO PROVIDE REMEDIES THAT WILL ALLOW OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTHS TO RETURN TO SCHOOL AND FINISH THEIR EDUCATION

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 17 states: The State shall give priority to education, science and technology, arts, culture, and sports to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development;

WHEREAS, Article 14, Section 1 of the same provides: The State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all;

WHEREAS, the Philippines has been reported to continuously suffer from the rise of illiteracy in the country;

WHEREAS, the growing financial crisis due to recession is one of the reasons why parents could no longer afford sending their children to school;

WHEREAS, although many schools have reportedly refrained from increasing their tuition, the cost of education is still too expensive to bear by most households;

WHEREAS, not everyone who has to stop schooling due to financial straits are eligible for scholarships; as a result, they could not transfer to a public school without first having to pay the remaining tuition balance in their school;

WHEREAS, it is common practice for private schools not to release the records of students who have an outstanding balance with their school;

WHEREAS, such a practice results in a growing number of out-of-school youths since they are deprived the opportunity to study again until they or their parents are able to pay their debt with the school;

WHEREAS, the legislature should provide remedies that will curb such a practice in order to allow more out-of-school youths to return to school and finish their education;

WHEREAS, one equitable remedy could be to implement a study-now-pay-later scheme for student studying in private schools;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate, to direct the proper Senate Committee to conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation, on the reported need to create remedies that will allow out-of-school-youths to return to school and finish their education.

Adopted,

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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