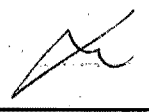


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
9 NOV 10 2016

SENATE

Jt. Res. No. 36

RECEIVED


**Introduced by Senators Edgardo J. Angara, Pia "Compañera" Cayetano,
Aquilino Pimentel, Jr., and Ramon Revilla, Jr.**

**JOINT RESOLUTION
EXTENDING THE TERM OF THE CONGRESSIONAL COMMISSION ON
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND ENGINEERING (COMSTE) UNTIL THE
END OF THE FIFTEENTH CONGRESS**

WHEREAS, Joint Resolution No. 1 created the Congressional Commission on Science and Technology, and Engineering (COMSTE) to undertake a national review and assessment of the science and technology (S&T), and engineering research and development (R&D) system of the country;

WHEREAS, in light of the wide scope and depth of the key focus areas under science and technology, and engineering R&D; and due to the difficulty in acquiring the relevant data to fulfill the assessment stage, and in being able to build and develop the necessary consensus from the appropriate stakeholders, Joint Resolution No. 2 was enacted by both Houses of Congress, and subsequently approved by Her Excellency, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo last 07 April 2009;

WHEREAS, Joint Resolution No. 2, extends the term of COMSTE until the end of the Fourteenth Congress to enable the Commission to completely and effectively carry out its mandate of reviewing the true state of S&T and R&D in the Philippines, and correspondingly propose and recommend the necessary projects, policies and programs that will authentically aid the nation's thrust to be globally competitive in science and technology, and engineering;

WHEREAS, the Commission, in the course of its assessment and action planning phases of its work plan, was able to recommend certain policies and projects, jointly in the energy, electronics, health, agriculture, education and information technology (IT) sectors of science and technology;

WHEREAS, the COMSTE panels dealing on these vital sectors initiated, among others, the creation of the Industrial R&D Institute (IRDI), the Renewable Energy R&D Institute (RERDI), and the National Telehealth Center, which shall help raise the country's competitiveness in R&D thru innovation, effective R&D, and sustained public-private partnership;

WHEREAS, these institutes, and proposed projects and policies are still being finalized by the COMSTE in cooperation with the Departments of Science and Technology (DOST), Health (DOH), Energy (DOE), and Budget and Management (DBM);

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WHEREAS, in anticipation of the release of the funding for these projects and policies, as well as their completion and implementation, there is a need for COMSTE to be present in order to monitor and ensure that these initiatives are genuinely realized;

WHEREAS, these initiatives by the Commission form part and parcel of its actionable items under its proposed National Science and Technology Strategy, wherein it intends to realistically aid the nation's thrust to be globally competitive in science and technology and engineering R&D;

WHEREAS, the COMSTE's output is essential to the promotion and fulfillment of the 1987 Philippine Constitution's provisions in prioritizing, among others, science and technology, to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress and promote total human liberation and development;

WHEREAS, the Constitution also provides that the State shall further give priority to research and development, invention, innovation, science and technology education, training and services. It shall support indigenous, appropriate and self-reliant scientific and technological capabilities and their application to the country's productive system and national life: *Now, therefore, be it*

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,


That the term of the Congressional Commission on Science and Technology, and Engineering (COMSTE) shall be extended until the end of the Fifteenth Congress.

Adopted,


SEN. EDGARDO J. ANGARA


SEN. AQUILINO PIMENTEL, JR.


SEN. PIA "COMPAÑERA" CAYETANO


SEN. RAMON REVILLA, JR.