

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

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Senate
P.S. Resolution No. 1268

RECEIVED BY. *J.*

Introduced by: Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino IV

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE INCREASE OF YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT AND THE NEED TO CREATE EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES AND FORMULATE PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS THE NEEDS OF YOUNG FILIPINOS, INCLUDING THE UNEMPLOYED YOUTH, WORKERS IN VULNERABLE EMPLOYMENT AND YOUNG ENTREPRENEURS

Whereas, the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the State shall afford full protection to labor, local and overseas, organized and unorganized, and promote full employment and equality of employment opportunities for all. The State also recognizes the role of the youth in nation building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual and social well-being;

Whereas, according to the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA) and the National Statistics Office (NSO), the unemployment rate increased to 6.6 percent in January 2015, from 6 percent as reported in October 2014. The employment rate is estimated at 93.4 percent in January 2015, up from 92.5 percent last 2014. There were 37.4 million employed people: 54.6 percent worked in the services sector, 29.5 in agriculture and 15.9 percent in industry sector;

Whereas, the age bracket from 15 to 24 years old accounted for 49.1 percent of total unemployed, while the age group 25 to 34 accounted for 31.6 percent. This is estimated at around 8.5 million youth unemployed, a slight increase from last year, which is 8.2 million. By educational attainment, 20.4 percent were college graduates, 13.0 percent were college undergraduates, and 34.4 percent were high school graduates. Underemployment has marginally decreased this year, a decrease of 42,000 underemployed Filipinos this year, but that is still 6.9 million Filipinos underemployed;

Whereas, based on the data by the PSA, the quality and type of employment also remains a challenge. Employment growth is greatly attributed to the increased number of part time employment, alongside the increase in self-employment (407,000 new self-employed workers) and unpaid family workers (292,000). Together, they contributed to 68.3% of those employed. However, this type of employment is considered vulnerable and thus, marginally contributory to the overall growth of the economy;

Whereas, quite a number of policy initiatives had been introduced to address youth unemployment problems including provision of labor market information, skills training and upgrading, online job-matching and improving entrepreneurship skills. Through the years, there has been mismatch between the available jobs and available skills in the labor force, which is considered as one of the main reasons for youth unemployment. There are employment opportunities but the young people are not fully equipped to handle the jobs available;

Whereas, there is a need to address the lack of capacity, coordination and collaboration among the relevant government offices and institutions such as the

Department of Labor, Department of Education, Commission on Higher Education, the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority and the National Economic Authority, among others. In order to strategically and significantly promote job generation for young Filipinos and propose interventions on economic policies, there should be a coordinated policy framework to address the challenges of youth unemployment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved to direct the appropriate Senate committees to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the increase of youth unemployment and the need to create employment opportunities and formulate programs to address the needs of young Filipinos, including the unemployed youth, workers in vulnerable employment, and young entrepreneurs.

Adopted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ben Aquino". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style with a long, sweeping tail on the final letter.