Senate 19this of the Secretary

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session

15 APR 16 P2:38

SENATE P. S. R. No. <u>1278</u>

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	Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago
1 2 3 4 5	RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALARMING REPORT OF TWO STUDENTS COMMITTING SUICIDE OVER THEIR FAILURE TO SECURE SCHOOL CLEARANCE
6	WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 5 provides that: "The maintenance of
7	peace and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and promotion of the general
8	welfare are essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy";
9	WHEREAS, DepEd Order No. 40, s.2012, Section 2, paragraph 1 states: "The State
10	shall defend the right of children to assistance, including proper care and nutrition, and special
11	protection from all forms of neglect, abuse, cruelty, exploitation and other conditions prejudicial
12	to their development";
13	WHEREAS, Inquirer.net on 21 March 2015 reported that the Department of Education
14	(DepEd) in Cebu is investigating the deaths of two students of Daanbantayan National High
15	School; the students allegedly committed suicide due to their failure to secure a clearance for the
16	release of their grades;
17	WHEREAS, a student clearance allows students the chance to settle their accountabilities
18	and incomplete requirements within a reasonable period;
19	WHEREAS, the two students were cousins and third year students;
20	WHEREAS, according to PO3 Raymond Pepito of the Daanbantayan police, a teacher of
21	the subject Filipino refused to sign the clearance of the two students for failing to comply with an
22	unspecified requirement;
23	WHEREAS, Pepito claimed that since the two students were not able to secure a
24	clearance, their grades were not released and they were not able to move to fourth year;

- 1 WHEREAS, Congress should ensure that the rules implemented by the schools are fair 2 and cautious to the welfare of the students;
- WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct 3 the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the alarming report of 4 students' suicide over their failure to get school clearance. 5

Adopted,

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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