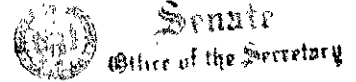


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



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SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1392

RECEIVED BY: *[Signature]*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE
TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,
ON THE REPORT THAT SOME 3,000 STUDENTS WOULD BE AFFECTED
BY THE SHUTDOWN OF LUMAD SCHOOLS

1 WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 5, provides: “The maintenance of peace
2 and order, the protection of life, liberty, and property, and promotion of the general welfare are
3 essential for the enjoyment by all the people of the blessings of democracy”;

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

7 WHEREAS, various media sources in June reported that the imminent closure of several
8 Lumad schools in Davao del Norte would affect some 3,000 students;

9 WHEREAS, the Department of Education (DepEd) in Davao Del Norte allegedly
10 endorsed the closure of the schools, and the installation of public schools with military personnel
11 as para-teachers;

12 WHEREAS, advocacy groups Save Our Schools (SOS) Network and Karapatan,
13 however, charged that education officials colluded with the military for the shutdown;

14 WHEREAS, the SOS Network and Karapatan claimed that school incidents involving the
15 60th and 68th Infantry Battalion, both assigned in Davao del Norte have been documented, and
16 are believed to have affected some 4,309 students and 41 teachers in the first five months of
17 2015 alone;

18 WHEREAS, the National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) alleged that it has
19 yet to receive documentary evidence of such incidents, however;


20 WHEREAS, the SOS Network has previously assailed DepEd Memorandum 221, issued
21 in 2013, which the group said threatened the safety of students and teachers by allowing military
22 presence in schools;

1 WHEREAS, proposed Senate Resolution No. 1070, filed on 22 December 2014, called
2 for an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the need to bar the entry of armed entities into school
3 grounds;

4 WHEREAS, recent events lend urgency to the need for an investigation, through which
5 the Senate may contemplate legislation declaring schools all over the country as peace zones;

6 WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct
7 the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the report that some
8 3,000 students would be affected by the shutdown of Lumad schools.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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/kmp