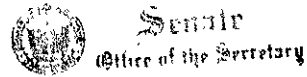


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)



15 SEP 28 P 3:47

SENATE
P. S. R. No. 1596

RECEIVED BY: J.

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEE
TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION,
ON THE RECENT COMMISSION ON AUDIT REPORT THAT THE POLYTECHNIC
UNIVERSITY OF THE PHILIPPINES IS KEEPING ₱293 MILLION IN INCOME IN BANK
ACCOUNTS INSTEAD OF USING THE FUNDS TO UPGRADE SCHOOL FACILITIES

- 1 WHEREAS, the Constitution provides, in Article 2, Sections 27 and 28:
- 2 Section 27. The State shall maintain honesty and integrity in the public
3 service and take positive and effective measures against graft and corruption.
- 4 Section 28. Subject to reasonable conditions prescribed by law, the State
5 adopts and implements a policy of full public disclosure of all its transactions
6 involving public interest.
- 7 WHEREAS, the *Philippine Star* reported on 19 September 2015 that the Polytechnic
8 University of the Philippines (PUP) in Manila has more than ₱293 million in income from
9 student tuition stashed away in bank accounts;
- 10 WHEREAS, state auditors said that the school officials are allowing these funds to
11 accumulate instead of utilizing the money to upgrade the school's facilities, as intended in
12 Republic Act No. 8292 or the "Higher Education Modernization Act of 1997";
- 13 WHEREAS, the COA claimed that the school even collected fiduciary fees – such as
14 cultural, laboratory, library, medical and dental, information technology development and
15 athletic, sports development or athletic competition – which have been budgeted for specific
16 projects but were not spent fully and efficiently;
- 17 WHEREAS, of the approved budget of ₱38.304 million for fiduciary fees, allegedly only
18 ₱6.542 million or 17 percent was spent, leaving ₱31.762 million or 83 percent unutilized;
- 19 WHEREAS, to promote public access to higher education, the government must ensure
20 that state universities and colleges are, on the one hand, adequately funded and, on the other,
21 efficiently managing funds;

1 WHEREAS, the Congress, in reviewing the proposed 2016 budget for state universities
2 and colleges, must determine the need for new or strengthened legislation aimed at effectively
3 managing public funds for higher education;

4 WHEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE PHILIPPINE SENATE to direct
5 the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the recent
6 Commission on Audit report that the Polytechnic University of the Philippines is keeping ₱293
7 million in income in bank accounts instead of using the funds to upgrade school facilities.

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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