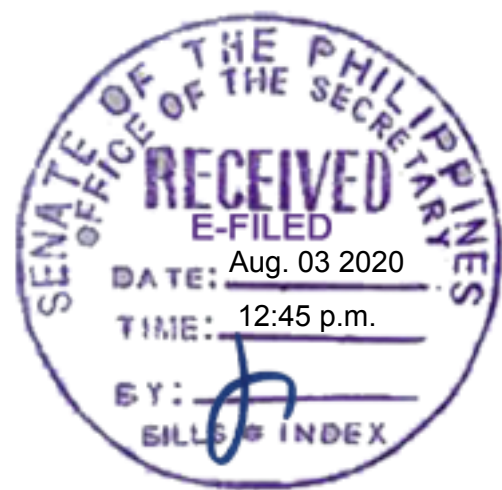


EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)



SENATE
P.S. RES. NO. 486

Introduced by SENATOR SONNY ANGARA

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATUS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 9512, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL AWARENESS AND EDUCATION ACT OF 2008, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF IDENTIFYING THE GAPS IN ITS IMPLEMENTATION AND ENSURING THE INTEGRATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION IN THE SCHOOL CURRICULA AT ALL LEVELS

1 WHEREAS, Article II, Section 13 of the 1987 Constitution provides “[t]he State
2 recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect
3 their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It shall inculcate in
4 the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and
5 civic affairs”;

6 WHEREAS, Article II, Section 16, of the Constitution further states that “[t]he
7 State shall protect and advance the right of the people to a balanced and healthful
8 ecology in accord with the rhythm and harmony of nature”;

9 WHEREAS, the Paris Agreement on Climate Change, to which the Philippines is
10 a signatory, requires all Parties to strengthen the global response to the threat of
11 climate change;

12 WHEREAS, on 12 December 2008, Republic Act (R.A.) No. 9512, otherwise
13 known as the National Environmental Awareness and Education Act of 2008 was
14 enacted, which mandates the Department of Education (DepEd), the Commission on
15 Higher Education (CHED), the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority
16 (TESDA), the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), in coordination
17 with the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), the Department
18 of Science and Technology (DOST) and other relevant agencies to integrate
19 environmental education in its school curricula at all levels;

20 WHEREAS, in compliance with R.A. No. 9512, the DepEd issued Department
21 Order No. 52, s. 2011 on the “Strengthening Environmental Education in Public and
22 Private Schools” while the CHED issued Memorandum Order No. 33, s. 2009 to

1 integrate environmental education particularly in the Civic Welfare and Training
2 Service component of the National Service Training Program;

3 WHEREAS, despite the passage of the National Environmental Awareness and
4 Education Act of 2008 and other relevant environmental laws such as the Clean Air
5 Act, the Philippine Clean Water Act, and the Ecological Solid Waste Management Act,
6 there is still an apparent lack of awareness and commitment among Filipinos to
7 conserve and protect the environment;

8 WHEREAS, Philippines ranked 3rd in deaths due to air pollution, according to
9 the World Health Organization (WHO). There were about 45.3 air pollution deaths per
10 100,000 Filipinos, based on the WHO study released in May 2018;

11 WHEREAS, the country likewise placed third among the world's largest
12 contributors of ocean plastic pollution, according to a 2015 study conducted by the
13 University of Georgia and reported by Ocean Conservancy and McKinsey Center for
14 Business and Environment;

15 WHEREAS, from 10.9 million hectares 45 years ago, the Philippine forest cover
16 has decreased to merely 7 million hectares as of 2015, according to the latest edition
17 of The State of Philippine Environment by IBON Foundation;

18 WHEREAS, according to the latest Generation Z: APAC report by Wunderman
19 Thompson Intelligence, natural disaster, climate change, and environmental pollution
20 are among the top five sources of worry of Filipino Gen Zs;

21 WHEREAS, these warning signs should prompt us to put forward our best
22 efforts in inculcating a sense of new and better "normal" that would provide the youth
23 of today and the next generation with a cleaner, greener, and equitable future;

24 WHEREAS, with continuous degradation of our environment, it is imperative
25 that we educate Filipinos especially the youth on the vital role of ensuring a balanced
26 environment in achieving sustainable development;

27 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the
28 Senate of the Philippines to direct the appropriate Senate Committee to conduct an
29 inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the status of the implementation of Republic Act No.
30 9512, otherwise known as the National Environmental Awareness and Education Act
31 of 2008, with the end in view of identifying the gaps in its implementation and ensuring
32 that environmental education is integrated in the curricula at all levels.

Adopted,



SONNY ANGARA