EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Third Regular Session



SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 865

Introduced by SENATORS PIA S. CAYETANO and JOEL VILLANUEVA

RESOLUTION

URGING THE COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS, INNOVATION, AND FUTURES THINKING TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE COUNTRY'S READINESS FOR THE FOURTH INDUSTRIAL REVOLUTION (INDUSTRY 4.0) AND THE FUTURE OF WORK

WHEREAS, the Philippines is a party to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development that adopted the seventeen (17) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which provides a blueprint to achieve a better and more sustainable future for all;

WHEREAS, in order to achieve the SDGs, particularly SDG 4 on quality education, SDG 8 on decent work and economic growth, and SDG 9 on industry, innovation and infrastructure, and to build upon these goals beyond 2030, the country must look to preparing and innovating towards a future of work that takes into account the different needs and possible disruptions of the future;

WHEREAS, the future of work and the 4th Industrial Revolution, or Industry 4.0, are being characterized by the rise of automation, artificial intelligence, the gig economy, and various demographic and social changes;¹

WHEREAS, the World Economic Forum states that in 2030, 50% of jobs will be changed by automation, and 9 out of 10 jobs will require digital skills;²

¹Mohapatra, A., & Abott, K. (2019, Aug 7). Can We Create a 'Future of Work' that Works for Women? Retrieved on August 9, 2021 from https://www.bsr.org/en/our-insights/blog-view/can-we-create-a-future-of-work-that-works-for-women

² Van Eerd, R., & Guo, J. (2020, Jan 17). Jobs will be very different in 10 years. Here's how to prepare. Retrieved August 9, 2021 from https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2020/01/future-of-work/

WHEREAS, a report by the Institute for the Future, a US-based not-for-profit think tank that assists organizations in planning for the long-term future, found that 85% of jobs that will exist in 2030 have not been created yet;³

WHEREAS, despite the rise in automation, the World Economic Forum provides that only 5% of jobs will be eliminated, and that workers simply need to be given the skills in order to adapt to the changes demanded by the future;⁴

WHEREAS, the current system for education and training of Filipino workers must change in order to meet the demands of the future of work and Industry 4.0 by providing emphasis on digital literacy; English proficiency; 21st century skills and soft skills such as creativity, critical thinking, leadership, innovation, adaptability and agility; and science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)-related skills, among others;

WHEREAS, the work landscape across all industries must also adapt to changes in the workforce and in business models, such as changes in workforce demographics which is expected to be more diverse, globalized, interconnected and multigenerational; a shift towards remote work and project-based relationships; a focus on sustainability; and rapid technological changes and collaboration between humans and artificial intelligence, among others;⁵

WHEREAS, futures thinking is a vital method for informed reflections on possible futures of various aspects of life, including the future of work, which will bring into focus the scope of connection among issues and their potential impacts and implications;⁶

WHEREAS, relevant stakeholders need to collaborate and explore possible outcomes, emerging ideas and innovative opportunities and strategies to ensure the country is prepared to meet the demands of Industry 4.0 and the future of work;

⁶ OECD. Futures Thinking In Brief. Retrieved August 9, 2021 from

https://www.oecd.org/site/schoolingfortomorrowknowledgebase/futuresthinking/futuresthinkinginbrief.htm

³Institute for the Future. (2017). The next era of human-machine partnerships. Retrieved August 9, 2021 from

https://www.delltechnologies.com/content/dam/delltechnologies/assets/perspectives/2030/pdf/SR1940_IFTFforDellTechnologies/assets/p

⁴ Supra note 2.

⁵GetSmarter. (2020, Jan 23). Which Jobs Will Be In Demand In The Next 10 Years?. Retrieved on August 9, 2021 from https://www.getsmarter.com/blog/career-advice/job-demand-10-years/

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, to urge the Committee on Sustainable Development Goals, Innovation, and Futures Thinking to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the country's readiness for the Fourth Industrial Revolution (Industry 4.0) and the future of work, with the end goal of creating policies and measures that will prepare the county's workforce given the changing needs of the future and towards the achievement of the SDGs.

Adopted,

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