

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



Senate
Office of the Secretary

'13 NOV 26 P2:10

SENATE
P. S. R. No. 388

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 ALLEGED NEED TO INSTITUTIONALIZE THE GIVING OF SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS TO STUDENTS SEVERELY AFFECTED BY CALAMITIES

WHEREAS, the Constitution, Article 2, Section 13 states, "The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being";

WHEREAS, several news reports claimed that there are, as of 18 November 2013, 3,976 people dead due to typhoon Yolanda (international codename: Haiyan), and 10.3 million people who are displaced;

WHEREAS, as a result of the super typhoon, several students have lost not just their homes, but entire families as well;

WHEREAS, Yolanda has left many students devastated, if not completely orphaned, without immediate options on how to continue or even finish their studies;

WHEREAS, according to reports, chancellors of premier state university, the University of the Philippines (UP), has been instructed by its president, Alfredo Pascual, to accommodate all affected students from UP Visayas Tacloban College (UPVTC) campus and UP Manila School of Health Sciences (UPM-SHS) in Palo, Leyte who would want to cross-register for the second semester;

WHEREAS, several media outfits have also reported that students of the University of the Philippines in Diliman who are from the provinces devastated by Super Typhoon Yolanda will be exempted from paying tuition for the second semester; they will also be assigned lower brackets in the university's Socialized Tuition and Financial Assistance Program (STFAP);

WHEREAS, students assigned to lower brackets will no longer have to pay tuition and miscellaneous fees, while each student will also receive a monthly stipend of P2,400;

WHEREAS, according to reports, UP Diliman students affected by the super typhoon can also get the following school services for free: dorm slots, meals, and refund of tuition and other dorm fees;

WHEREAS, all state universities and colleges should be mandated to extended relief aid and financial assistance to its students affected by extreme national calamities;

WHEREAS, to ensure that the youth from devastated areas are able to continue with their education, the government, through the Department of Education, the Commission on Higher Education and local government units, should institutionalize scholarship grants to students severely affected by calamities;

WHEREAS, these agencies, after public hearing, should craft measures and guidelines that will ensure the availability of financial aid and the efficiency of its distribution to affected students;

WHEREFORE, be it hereby resolved by the Philippine Senate to direct the proper Senate committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the alleged need to institutionalize the giving of scholarship grants to students severely affected by calamities.

Adopted,

Miriam Defensor Santiago
SEN. MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

/mamt