

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

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SENATE
P.S. Res. No. 700

RECEIVED BY



Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

RESOLUTION

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE SENATE TO CALL UPON THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO HIRE GRADUATES OF THE REFORMED K TO 12 BASIC EDUCATION SYSTEM TO ENABLE FRESH GRADUATES TO FIND DECENT AND FULFILLING EMPLOYMENT AND TO ENSURE THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10533, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "ENHANCED BASIC EDUCATION ACT OF 2013".

1 WHEREAS, Section 1, Article XIV of the Constitution directs the State to
2 "...protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels, and
3 shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all";

4 WHEREAS, Paragraph 1, Section 2 of the same provision further mandates the
5 State to "Establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system
6 of education relevant to the needs of the people and society";

7 WHEREAS, finally, Section 3, Article XIII of our Fundamental Law mandates the
8 State to provide full employment and equality of employment opportunities for all;

9 WHEREAS, the Constitutional provisions cited above point to the challenge of
10 ensuring our educational system is not only affordable and of a high quality, but also
11 provides individuals with the skills they need to become productive members of our
12 workforce;

13 WHEREAS, job-skills mismatch, wherein the skills learned by the workforce
14 through the educational system do not match the skills which are needed in the market,
15 is one of the major issues still being faced by our educational system;

1 WHEREAS, in recognition of the above issues and Constitutional provisions,
2 Republic Act No. 10533, or the "*Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013*", colloquially
3 known as the "K to 12 Act", was enacted into law on 15 May 2013;

4 WHEREAS, Section 2 of R.A. No. 10533, declares it a State policy that every
5 graduate of basic education shall be an empowered individual who has learned the
6 competence to engage in work and be productive, and thus shall "create a functional
7 basic education system that will develop productive and responsible citizens equipped
8 with the essential competencies, skills and values for both life-long learning and
9 employment";

10 WHEREAS, one of the key selling points of the K to 12 Act when it was being
11 deliberated in plenary by Congress was that graduates of the basic education system
12 would be immediately ready for employment;

13 WHEREAS, the Department of Education (DepEd) in a statement said they are
14 confident that the first batch of K to 12 graduates are "job-ready" and "are equipped
15 the students with the values, knowledge and skills that communities, businesses, and
16 industries need."¹

17 WHEREAS, despite such reassurances, there are various reports that some
18 corporations are still reluctant to hire K to 12 graduates due to concerns regarding their
19 competence and qualifications;

20 WHEREAS, the successful implementation of the reforms under R.A. No. 10533
21 requires the cooperation of the private sector, as they comprise a major part of the
22 demand-side of the job market, and can thus allow or prevent K to 12 graduates from
23 finding decent and fulfilling employment.

24 RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Senate of the Philippines, to
25 express the sense of the Senate to call upon the private sector to hire graduates of the
26 reformed K to 12 basic education system to enable fresh graduates to find decent and

¹ Department of Education (DepEd). "Strong partnerships between DepEd, industries produce job-ready, life-ready SHS graduates" Retrieved from <http://www.deped.gov.ph/press-releases/strong-partnerships-between-deped-industries-produce-job-ready-life-ready-shs>

- 1 fulfilling employment and to ensure the successful implementation of Republic Act No.
- 2 10533, otherwise known as the "*Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013*".
- 3
- 4 *Adopted,*


GRACE POE