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SENATE
P.S. Res. No. 92

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Introduced by SENATOR SONNY ANGARA

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE REPORTED LAPSES IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CRITICAL BASIC EDUCATION PROGRAMS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED) FOR PURPOSES OF INSTITUTING APPROPRIATE REFORMS THEREFOR

1 WHEREAS, education plays a vital role in shaping a country's future, and in
2 ensuring quality education for all, the 1987 Constitution has mandated the State to
3 assign highest budgetary priority to education;

4 WHEREAS, in spite of being given budgetary priority, the 2018 Commission on
5 Audit (COA) report revealed that there have been lapses in the procurement and
6 implementation of the various programs of the Department of Education (DepEd)
7 aimed at accelerating learning and providing quality education for our youth;

8 WHEREAS, in terms of facilities, DepEd allegedly managed to construct only 11
9 out of the targeted 47,000 new classrooms for 2018, with delays hounding the
10 repair/rehabilitation of classrooms (from 1 to 637 days) and electrification projects (21
11 to 123 days) thereby depriving students of much needed safe and structurally stable
12 facilities conducive to learning;

13 WHEREAS, from its 2018 target of 38.5 million textbooks and instructional or
14 learning materials for distribution in 2018, DepEd was able to deliver only 11.8 million
15 – with 3.4 Million copies of instructional materials, amounting to almost ₱114 Million,
16 still undistributed, unutilized and idle in five DepEd warehouses;

17 WHEREAS, the 2018 COA Report also noted deficiencies in the implementation
18 of programs designed to improve basic education in math and science such as the

19 non-delivery of Science and Mathematics Equipment (SME) kit, delivery of excessive
20 quantities to schools which do not need them, lack of proper training of teachers to
21 use the equipment and lack of proper laboratories or storage facilities for said
22 equipment;

23 WHEREAS, delays in the procurement and non-delivery of the 4,600 technical-
24 vocational and livelihood (TVL) learning tools and equipment for the development of
25 technical-vocational skills and the unutilized/underutilized items for the Redesigned
26 Technical-Vocational High School Program, negate one of the primary purposes of the
27 K-12 program which is to give Filipino students practical skills to gain employment
28 after graduation;

29 WHEREAS, setbacks in cultivating Information and Communication (ICT)
30 literacy of learners and educators from 39,950 schools under the DepEd
31 Computerization Program was likewise caused by delays in the procurement and
32 lapses in delivery and utilization of the ICT packages in various regions;

33 WHEREAS, gaps in the implementation of the school-based feeding program
34 (SBFP) for school years (SYs) 2017-2018 and 2018-2019, such as the improper
35 execution of the double feeding scheme, non-completion of the 120-feeding in Schools
36 Division Offices, and unutilized SBFP funds, frustrated government's strategy to
37 address malnutrition in school children;

38 WHEREAS, these chronic delays in the implementation of essential basic
39 education programs, improper procurement and non-delivery of learning tools and
40 equipment impede the provision of quality education to the detriment of our children;

41 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Senate of the Philippines direct
42 the appropriate Senate committee to conduct an investigation, in aid of legislation, on
43 the reported lapses in the implementation of critical basic education programs of the
44 Department of Education (DepEd) with the end in view of instituting appropriate
45 reforms within the agency.

Adopted,


SONNY ANGARA