FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session

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SENATE

P.S. Res. No. 9

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INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

RESOLUTION

STRONGLY URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON FINANCE TO CONSIDER THE POSSIBILITY OF REALIGNING THE SAVINGS OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR FISCAL YEAR 2007 WITH THE END IN VIEW OF INCREASING THE SALARIES AND ALLOWANCES OF TEACHERS AND NON-TEACHING PERSONNEL NATIONWIDE

WHEREAS, Section 5.5, Article XIV of the Philippine Constitution provides that the "State shall assign the highest budgetary priority to education and ensure that teaching will attract and retain its rightful share of the best available talents through adequate remuneration and other means of job satisfaction and fulfillment."

WHEREAS, the Department of Education continues to receive the highest appropriation in the national budget in nominal terms but it is not an indication that the government has given priority to education.

WHEREAS, the quality of education in the country has continued to deteriorate compared to other Asian countries as indicated in a recent study on education that "while other countries advance, the quality of education, and its output in the Philippines is deteriorating to such distressing level that the country now ranks among the poorer performers in East Asia. In a recent report of UNESCO, the Philippine ranked 74th in terms of Education Development Index or EDI, falling below Mongolia (61st), Vietnam (65th), Indonesia (58th) and China (38th). The index is a composite measure that is based on enrollment ratio, literacy rate, gender-specific index, and quality (survival rate up to grade 5)." (*CPBO, An Analysis of the President's budget, 2007*)

WHEREAS, available research show that teachers are the most important determinant of student achievement and a vital element in the delivery of an effective teaching-learning process as a requisite to upgrade the quality of education in the country;

WHEREAS, in order for the country to harness and motivate the teaching and non-teaching personnel nationwide, there is a need to grant a salary increase considering that the present administration has not allocated any adjustments on their take home pay since 2001. **NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED,** as it is hereby resolved, to urge the Committee on Finance to realign the budget of the Department of Education with the end in view to cover the salary increase of teaching and non-teaching personnel nationwide.

Adopted,

JINGGOY **EJERCITO ESTRADA** Senator