

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

6 JAN 23 11:33

SENATE
P. S. R. No. " 421 "

RECEIVED BY: *M*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION ON THE ALLEGED
DISCRIMINATORY PRACTICES OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE
HIRING PREFERENCES OF TEACHERS

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 7836, a.k.a. the Professionalization of Teaching in the Philippines Act, Section 2, provides that the "State recognizes the vital role of teachers in nation-building and development through a responsible and literate citizenry. Towards this end, the State shall ensure and promote quality education by proper supervision and regulation of the licensure examination and professionalization of the practice of the teaching profession;

WHEREAS, in an article in Manila Bulletin, published 11 January 2006, the National Organization of Professional Teachers, Inc. (NOPTI) has appealed to the Department of Education (DepEd) to reexamine and, if necessary, amend its guidelines for public elementary and secondary school teachers;

WHEREAS, NOPTI is the only association of public and private school mentors duly accredited by the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC);

WHEREAS, Dr. Martha A. Mogol, NOPTI president, reported during the national conference of schools superintendents that the teacher hiring rules indicated in DepEd Order No. 16, series of 2005, appear to violate some provisions of R.A. No. 7836,

WHEREAS, Mogol, former director of DepEd's Bureau of Secondary Education (BSE), claimed that the order gives low priority to Licensure Examination for Teachers (LET) passers with a 75 percent rating (who total over 30 percent of some 100,000 LET qualifiers) compared to those who have higher passing marks;


WHEREAS, Mogol further claimed that DepEd Order No. 16 also gives LET passers, who graduated from provincial teacher-education schools, lower points in the ranking of applicants than those from prominent institutions in Metro Manila and other urban areas; she said that these hiring rules are not only unjust to and discriminatory against affected qualified teacher-applicants but are also violative of R. A. No. 7836, which never stipulates anything against those with 75 percent LET rating or those who finished their teaching courses from provincial schools;

WHEREAS, while NOPTI supports DepEd's argument of "getting the best among qualified teacher applicants", this should never be to the extent of disregarding R.A. No. 7836 and other related laws;

WHEREAS, Mogol maintained that success in teaching is hardly measured by one's rating in a government test nor by the school where one graduated but more by one's dedication and commitment to her or his job;

WHEREFORE, be it resolved that the proper Senate committee shall conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation on the alleged discriminatory practices of the Department of Education in the hiring preferences of teachers

Adopted,


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
MS

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