FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES *First Regular Session* 7 21 3 14

SET RE SECRETARY

SENATE P.S. Resolution No. **84**

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HECHIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Richard J. Gordon

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE NON-PAYMENT OF OR DELAYED REMITTANCES OF EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYEES PREMIUM CONTRIBUTIONS AND LOAN REPAYMENTS OF EMPLOYEES TO THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE INSURANCE SYSTEM.

WHEREAS, public school teachers comprise 40% of the membership of the Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) and remit 12% of their salaries each month as their GSIS monthly contribution;

WHEREAS, in Basilan and Sulu, public school teachers have reported that their GSIS premiums totaling over several hundred million pesos have not been remitted to Manila;

WHEREAS, in Bacolod and Negros Occidental, around 2,000 public school teachers staged a protest action against GSIS in May 2007 also alleging non-remittance of their premiums;

WHEREAS, the Manila Public School Teachers Association (MPSTA), comprised of about 11,500 members called for a withdrawal from GSIS in July 2007 due to non-posting or delayed posting of premium remittances;

WHEREAS, this situation has adversely affected the access of such employees to all GSIS benefits accorded to members in good standing, as they are unable to get loans, health insurance and other benefits, and they face the prospect of a pensionless retirement if the situation is not corrected;

WHEREAS, Section 6, sub-paragraph (b) of Republic Act No. 8291 otherwise known as the GSIS Act of 1977 states that, "Each employer shall remit directly to the GSIS the employees' and employers' contributions within the first ten (10) days of the calendar month following the month to which the contributions apply. The remittance by the employer of the contributions to the GSIS shall take priority over and above the payment of any and all obligations, except salaries and wages of its employees.";

WHEREAS, there is a need to clarify and determine the reasons behind such nonremittance or delayed remittance of employers and employees premium contributions and loan repayments of employees, correct such deficiencies and arrive at solutions in order for the employees to have access at the soonest possible time to all the GSIS benefits, and to prevent the occurrence of similar situations;

Now, Therefore be It resolved By the Senate, as it is hereby resolved, To Direct The Appropriate Senate Committees To Conduct An Inquiry, In Aid Of Legislation, On The Non-Remittance or Delayed Remittance Of Employers And Employees Premium Contributions And Loan Repayments Of Employees To The Government Service Insurance System.

Adopted,

RICHARD J. GORDON