FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Second Regular Session

8 SEP 30 11/6

SENATE

S. Jt. Res. No. <u>14</u>

HECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senators Edgardo J. Angara, Pia "Compañera" Cayetano, Juan Ponce Enrile, Aquilino Pimentel, Jr., and Ramon Revilla, Jr.

JOINT RESOLUTION

EXTENDING THE TERM OF THE CONGRESSIONAL COMMISSION ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, AND ENGINEERING (COMSTE) FOR ONE (1) MORE YEAR

WHEREAS, Joint Resolution No. 1 created the Congressional Commission on Science and Technology, and Engineering (COMSTE) to undertake a national review and assessment of the science and technology, and engineering research and development system of the country;

WHEREAS, to accomplish its mandate, the Commission segregated its work plan into three phases: two (2) months for the Assessment Phase; three (3) months for the Strategic Planning/Scenario Building Phase; and two (2) months for the Action Planning phase;

WHEREAS, the said work plan began in February 2008 and has yet to finish the second phase of its mandate in view of the experienced difficulty in acquiring the relevant data to fulfill the assessment stage, and in being able to build and develop the necessary consensus from the appropriate stakeholders;

WHEREAS, Joint Resolution No. 1 states that COMSTE shall accomplish its mandate within twelve (12) months from its organization, which will be on November 2008 since the Commission held its first organizational en banc meeting in November 2007;

WHEREAS, the remaining four (4) months before the end of term for the Commission is not enough time for it to completely and effectively review, assess and recommend the necessary policies and programs indispensable to the progress and sustainability of the nation's science and technology, and engineering and development system;

WHEREAS, the COMSTE's output is essential to the promotion and fulfillment of the 1987 Philippine Constitution's provisions in prioritizing, among others, science and technology, to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress and promote total human liberation and development;

WHEREAS, the Constitution also provides that the State shall further give priority to research and development, invention, innovation, science and technology education, training and services. It shall support indigenous, appropriate and self-reliant scientific and technological capabilities and their application to the country's productive system and national life: *Now*, therefore, be it

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, That the term of the Congressional Commission on Science and Technology, and Engineering (COMSTE) shall be extended for one (1) more year.

RESOLVED FURTHER, That the Commission shall propose and recommend the necessary policies and programs that will authentically aid the nation's thrust to be globally competitive in science and technology and engineering.

Adopted,

SEN. EDGARDO J. ANGARA

SEN. PIA "COMPAÑERA" CAYETANO

SEN. AQUILINO PIMENTEL, JR.

And the second

SEN RAMON REVILLA, JR.