

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasan Hills, Quezon City



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

257
HOUSE RESOLUTION No. _____

Introduced by

REP. BIENVENIDO "BENNY" ABANTE, JR., REP. JANETTE GARIN, REP. CARLOS ISAGANI ZARATE, REP. JOSE CHRISTOPHER "KIT" BELMONTE, REP. BAYANI FERNANDO, REP. JOSE "BONITO" SINGSON, REP. SHAREE ANN TEE TAN, REP. JOSEPH STEPHEN "CARAPS" PADUANO, REP. STELLA LUZ A. QUIMBO, REP. FRANCE CASTRO, REP. GABRIEL BORDADO, JR., REP. ARNOLFO "ARNIE" TEVES, JR., REP. ARGEL JOSEPH CABATBAT, REP. ALEX "AA" ADVINCULA, REP. ISAGANI AMATONG, REP. ARLENE BROSAS, REP. ANGELICA NATASHA CO, REP. ELIZALDY CO, REP. EUFEMIA "KA FEMIA" CULLAMAT, REP. SERGIO DAGOOC, REP. SARAH JANE ELAGO, C REP. ONG. LAWRENCE "LAW" FORTUN, REP. FERDINAND GAITE, REP. ALFREDO "PIDO" GARBIN, REP. GODOFREDO GUYA, REP. IRENE GAY SAULOG, REP. MA VICTORIA UMALI

RESOLUTION

CALLING FOR AN INVESTIGATION, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, BY THE COMMITTEE OF BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, ON THE FAILURE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO EFFECTIVELY AND FULLY IMPLEMENT ITS PROGRAMS RELATED TO TEXTBOOK AND OTHER LEARNING MATERIALS, AND THE BASIC EDUCATION FACILITIES, AS FOUND BY THE 2018 COMMISSION ON AUDIT OBSERVATION REPORT OF THE DEPARTMENT

WHEREAS, Commission on Audit (COA) reports on the budget of the Department of Education in the previous fiscal years had already observed shortcomings in the objectives for improved physical facilities under the DepEd's Basic Education Facilities Fund while also suffering losses due to damaged learning materials that were inefficiently handled and kept in the contractor's warehouse;

WHEREAS, on top of these reports in the past years, the Commission on Audit released the 2018 report showing the same perpetual problems on textbooks, learning materials, classrooms and school-buildings;

WHEREAS, there is a need for the DepEd to fully explain their failure to address problems on textbooks and school building affecting its two major programs, since these are noted annually by the Commission on Audit and hence perpetual, and affecting billions of pesos;

WHEREAS, the Department of Education reported an appallingly low accomplishment of a procurement of only 11,792,221 total textbooks and instructional or learning materials out of a target of 38,593,080 in 2018;

WHEREAS, the Commission on Audit observed in their 2018 Annual Audit Report on the Department of Education (DepEd) that out of the procured textbooks, the DepEd had an alarming number of undistributed instructional materials amounting to P113,708,595 that were procured as buffer stock from CYs 2014 up to 2017;

WHEREAS, the undistributed instructional materials, which remain unutilized and idle in five (5) DepEd warehouses, represent 3,410,137 copies intended for public schools nationwide;

WHEREAS, the report also observed control weaknesses in the safekeeping and inventory system of instructional materials which can bring further damage to the books;

WHEREAS, various errors were also noted in some of the learning materials intended for Grade 3 pupils;

WHEREAS, the overwhelming number of undistributed textbooks is already becoming alarming considering that the shortages in books, even error-filled books are perpetual problems;

WHEREAS, these problems of low procurement, failure to swiftly distribute instructional materials, and errors in textbooks are piled on top of the annual budget cuts for Textbooks and Other Learning Materials. The cuts amount to P3,040,831,000 in 2017, P2,990,831,000 budget for 2018, and P1,844,499,000 in 2019;

WHEREAS, the audit report also showed lapses in the implementation of repair/rehabilitation of classrooms under the DepEd's Basic Education Facilities Fund (BEFF) for CYs 2018, 2017 and 2016 in 12 Regional Offices;

WHEREAS, the Department of Education also reported a terribly low accomplishment in classroom building, with just 11 new classrooms constructed out of their 47,000 target for 2018—or just a 2.34% accomplishment;

WHEREAS, budget for the Basic Education Facilities Fund (BEFF) already had a P74,488,271,000 cut in its budget from the P105,461,287,000 in 2018 to the P30,973,016,000 in 2019. The budget for the BEFF was one of the biggest casualties in the 2019 budget;

WHEREAS, reports from teachers show they have to spend from their own money to provide their students photocopies for the learning material, while students resort to book sharing because of the lack of learning materials;

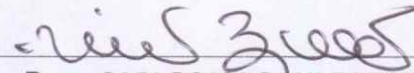
WHEREAS, teachers using comfort rooms as restrooms, two classes sharing one classrooms and students using makeshift classrooms in covered courts are not isolated and are perennial problems of the education agency. Teachers need to find ways to adapt and compensate with the state's shortages in facilities and learning materials;

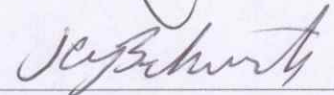
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the House Committee on Basic Education and Culture investigate, in aid of legislation, the failure of the Department of Education to effectively and fully implement its programs related to textbook and other learning materials, and the basic education facilities, as found by the 2018 Commission on Audit Observation Report of the department as it is hereby resolved, that the House of Representatives.

Adopted,

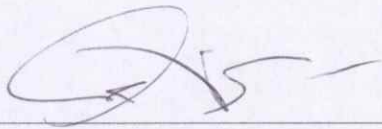

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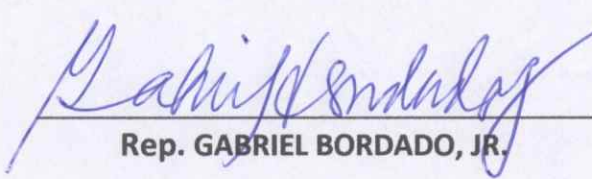
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