COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 531

Submitted by the Committee on Basic Education and Culture on SEP 25 2020
Re: House Resolution No. 1255
Recommend its adoption in substitution of House Resolution No. 1057.
Sponsor: Rep. Romulo

Mr. Speaker:

The Committee on Basic Education and Culture to which was referred House Resolution No. 1057, introduced by Rep. Ciriac B. Gato Jr., entitled:

A RESOLUTION

EARNESTLY REQUESTING PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE THROUGH THE INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE (IATF) FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES IN THE PHILIPPINES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED), TO ALLOW THE CONDUCT OF THE TRADITIONAL "FACE-TO-FACE" CLASSES IN THE PROVINCE OF BATANES WHICH REMAINS LOW RISK AND COVID-FREE

has considered the same and recommends that the attached House Resolution No. 1255, entitled:

RESOLUTION

URGING PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE, THROUGH THE INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE (IATF) FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, TO ALLOW THE CONDUCT OF "FACE-TO-FACE" CLASSES IN THE PROVINCE OF BATANES WHICH IS A LOW-RISK AND COVID-FREE PROVINCE

be adopted in substitution of House Resolution No. 1057, with Reps. Gato and Romulo as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted,

ROMAN T. ROMULO
Chairperson
Committee on Basic Education and Culture

THE HONORABLE SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
QUEZON CITY
Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1255
(In substitution of House Resolution No. 1057)

Introduced by Reps. Ciriaco B. Gato, Jr. and Roman T. Romulo

RESOLUTION

URGING PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE, THROUGH THE INTER-
AGENCY TASK FORCE (IATF) FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING
INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, TO
ALLOW THE CONDUCT OF “FACE-TO-FACE” CLASSES IN THE PROVINCE
OF BATANES WHICH IS A LOW-RISK AND COVID-FREE PROVINCE

WHEREAS, the basic education system in the country is adversely affected by the
COVID-19 pandemic which prompted the closure of schools and community learning
centers to protect the health and safety of the students and teachers;

WHEREAS, the Department of Education (DepEd) issued DepEd Order No. 12, s.
2020 on 19 June 2020 adopting the Basic Education – Learning Continuity Plan (BE-LCP)
as a package of education interventions in response to the challenges in basic education
caused by the current pandemic;

WHEREAS, the BE-LCP provides for multiple learning delivery modes and
platforms, namely, face-to-face, distance learning, and blended learning classes, which the
schools may choose to adopt depending on the risk severity classification of the
community, pursuant to the guidelines issued by the Department of Health (DOH) and the
Inter-agency Task Force (IATF) for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases;

WHEREAS, the DepEd has expressed its full support to the pronouncement of
President Rodrigo Roa Duterte for the prohibition of face-to-face classes until a vaccine
has been found for the COVID-19 disease;

WHEREAS, while distance learning is the current policy of the government, the
Province of Batanes is one of the areas in the country that has poor internet connectivity
which makes online classes difficult, if not impossible;

WHEREAS, the DepEd’s Learner Enrollment Survey Form (LESF) reported that
8.65 million enrollees prefer modular learning, 3.95 million enrollees prefer face-to-face
learning combined with other modalities, 2.6 million enrollees prefer TV and radio
broadcast, and only 3.37 million enrollees prefer online distance learning;

WHEREAS, to date, the Province of Batanes is COVID-free and has been
consistently declared and classified by the DOH and IATF as a very low-risk area;
WHEREAS, the average teacher-student ratio in the Province of Batanes is approximately 1:11 or 1:12 at the elementary and secondary levels, respectively, hence, conducting face-to-face classes in the province is realistic and practical inasmuch as the low number of students per class shall allow social distancing to be observed;

WHEREAS, the earnest request to allow the conduct of face-to-face classes in the Province of Batanes is fully supported by Batanes Governor Marilou H. Cayco, the Provincial Inter-agency Task Force (PIATF), the six (6) municipal mayors of Batanes, teachers, parents, and other stakeholders in the province: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the House of Representatives, To urge President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, through the Inter-agency Task Force (IATF) for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases and the DepEd, to allow the conduct of "face-to-face" classes in the Province of Batanes which is a low-risk and COVID-free province.

Resolved, further, That a copy of this Resolution be furnished to the Office of the President, the DepEd, and the IATF.

Adopted,