

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress  
First Regular Session

856

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. \_\_\_\_\_

Introduced by Rep. Anna Marie Villaraza-Suarez

RESOLUTION

URGING ALL PRIVATE AND PUBLIC TELEVISION STATIONS IN THE COUNTRY TO ALLOT AT LEAST THREE HOURS PER DAY TO EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS THAT FOSTER HOLISTIC LEARNING AND EDUCATION TO KEEP GOVERNMENT ON TRACK IN ITS COMMITMENT TO ACHIEVE THE 17 SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

*Whereas*, the coming school years in the short to medium term shall require public and private schools to implement home-based learning programs in view of the need to observe physical distancing until a cure or vaccine for COVID-19 becomes available;

*Whereas*, there is a real danger that unsupervised school-age children forced to stay at home may fall into the bad habit of either playing with their gadgets or watching TV programs that are non-educational in nature;

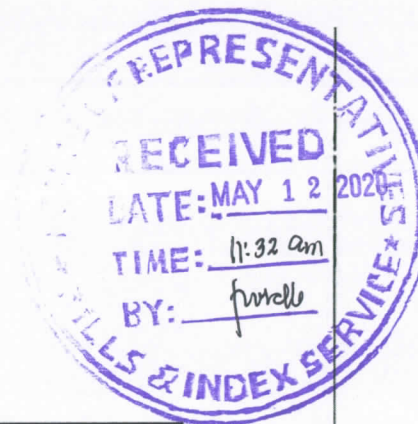
*Whereas*, the responsibility of ensuring school-age children that shall be provided with stimuli that will ensure continuous learning at home are shared equally by parents, school authorities, and media companies whose programs are easily accessible/available to students;

*Whereas*, televisions could play a significant role in shaping the values of school-age children because they are the cheapest and most accessible information platforms in the country. It is estimated that about 20 million Filipino households are estimated to have TVs (Are Filipinos cutting the cord? Zsarlene B. Chua, BusinessWorld, July 16, 2018), a relatively high penetration rate given the PSA data showing the Philippines' total of households in 2015 was 22.98 million;

*Whereas*, TV networks could generate as much revenues from educational programs versus pure entertainment programs as long as they identify their target audience properly and solicit the support of sponsors accordingly;

*Whereas*, it is imperative that private sector work actively with government to ensure that despite COVID-19 and the physical distancing requirement which has adversely affected the education sector, our school children shall continue to get the best possible opportunities to learn and become better citizens;

*Whereas*, government must not lose sight of its commitment to the United Nations 2030 Development Agenda to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals;



THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, That all private and public television stations in the country allot at least three hours per day to educational programs that foster holistic learning and education to keep the government on track in its commitment to achieve the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

RESOLVED, FURTHER, That the expenses incurred by the TV networks in the production of such programs shall be exempt from donor's tax and can be deducted from the taxable gross income of the company.

Adopted,

  
ANNA MARIE VILLARAZA-SUAREZ