

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress  
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. **857**

Introduced by Rep. Anna Mane Villaraza-Suarez

**RESOLUTION**

**URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED) TO IMPLEMENT TV-BASED LECTURES FOR ELEMENTARY AND HIGH SCHOOLS IN THE COUNTRY DURING THE COVID-19 PERIOD, USE THE FACILITIES OF TWO-GOVERNMENT-OWNED TV STATIONS PTV 4 AND IBC 13 TELEVISION STATIONS TO SERVE AS TRANSMISSION VEHICLES FOR SUCH LECTURES AND ENSURE GOVERNMENT CONTINUES ON ITS TRACK TO ACHIEVE GOAL 4: QUALITY EDUCATION OF THE 17 SUSTAINABLE GOALS**

*Whereas*, the COVID-19 pandemic has brought significant changes in the social interaction of people all over the world. With no cure available and the invention of a vaccine at least a year or two away, physical distancing will be the new norm even with the lifting of the community quarantine.

*Whereas*, public elementary and high schools in the country are notorious for their overcrowded classrooms, with some classes having as much as 80 students. No physical distancing can be observed in such places.

*Whereas*, the state must ensure it is able to provide the best possible education for its citizens, primarily the state-run public elementary and high schools, while at the same time making sure the students are safe from possible contamination of infectious diseases, including but not limited to COVID-19.

*Whereas*, the state shall explore new, creative, affordable, and attainable reforms in the education system to ensure it is responsive to the needs of the students and realities on the ground.

*Whereas*, it is estimated that about 20 million Filipino households 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*, conducting lectures through TV shall enable the DepEd to reach the bulk of the students, even those in far-flung barangays, considering that the country's electrification rate has reached 90% as of 2016 (World Bank 2018).

*Whereas*, using pre-taped lectures of not more than one hour at a time, each grade level shall be allotted a number of hours per week, with each subject assigned two



hours per week. The single lecturer system will ensure that all students receive the same quality of lecture, which the DepEd can maximize by hiring the best qualified/most effective lecturers in its pool.

*Whereas*, two government-owned and operated stations PTV 4 and IBC 13 may be utilized by the DepEd for this program.

*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 the Department of Education (DepEd) implement tv-based lectures for elementary and high schools in the country during the COVID-19 period, use the facilities of two-government-owned tv stations PTV 4 and IBC 13 television stations to serve as transmission vehicles for such lectures and ensure government continues on its track to achieve Goal 4: Quality Education of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

**RESOLVED, FURTHER**, That the Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO), which has supervision over the two TV stations shall:

1. make available to the DepEd the programming of these stations from 8 in the morning until 5 in the afternoon, Monday to Friday; and
2. provide technical assistance and other necessary support to ensure that the TV lectures run smoothly.

Adopted.

ANNA MARIE VILLARAZA-SUAREZ