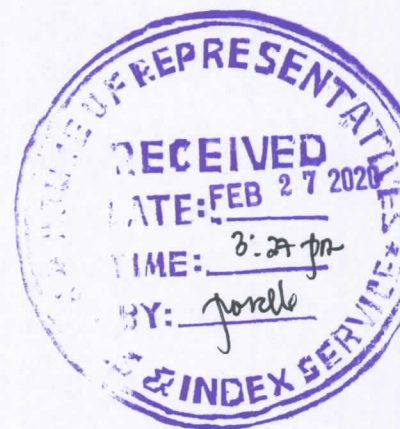




Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Constitution Hills, Quezon City



EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 746

Introduced by **REPRESENTATIVES FERDINAND L. HERNANDEZ, PROSPERO A. PICHAY, JR., and HENRY S. OAMINAL**

RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEES ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND GOOD GOVERNMENT TO JOINTLY CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION TO ASSESS AND EVALUATE THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TERTIARY EDUCATION SUBSIDY (TES) UNDER REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10931, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO QUALITY TERTIARY EDUCATION ACT TO ENSURE THAT THE MANDATE OF THE LAW IS EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY CARRIED OUT

WHEREAS, under the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act (UAQTEA) the State recognizes the complementary roles of public and private higher education institutions and technical-vocational institutions in the educational system and endeavors to

- a) Provide adequate funding and such other mechanisms to increase the participation rate among all socioeconomic classes in tertiary education;
- (b) Provide all Filipinos with equal opportunity to quality tertiary education in both private and public educational institutions;
- (c) Give priority to students who are academically able and who come from poor families;
- (d) Ensure the optimized utilization of government resources in education;

(e) Provide adequate guidance and incentives in channeling young Filipinos in their career choices and towards the proper development and utilization of human resources; and

(f) Recognize the complementary roles of public and private institutions in tertiary educational system.¹

WHEREAS, among the programs of the UAQTEA is the Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) for Filipino Students which may, among others, support the cost of tertiary education or any portion thereof to cover the following: (a) tuition and other school fees in private HEIs, and in private or LGU- operated TVIs, which shall be equivalent to the tuition and other school fees of the nearest SUC or State-run TVI in their respective area; (b) allowance for books, supplies, transportation, and miscellaneous personal expenses, including a reasonable allowance for the documented rental or purchase of personal computer or laptop, and other education-related expenses; (c) allowance for room and board costs incurred by the student; (d) for a student with disability, allowance for expenses related to the student's disability, including special services, personal assistance, transportation, equipment, and supplies that are reasonably incurred.²

WHEREAS, the administration of the TES is vested on the Unified Student Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education ("UniFAST") Board which shall develop detailed guidelines to properly allocate the TES to eligible students.

WHEREAS, under the General Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2020, the budget allocated for the TES is approximately 25 Billion pesos.

WHEREAS, there were previous reports that a plurality of student-beneficiaries from Region XII together with their parents, filed complaints with the CHED alleging that several schools failed or refused to release the full amount of the TES they are entitled to receive. The complainants claim that from the Sixty Thousand Pesos (Php60,000) TES granted to them, certain schools turned over and reimbursed only Twenty Thousand pesos (Php20,000).

WHEREAS, there are also reports that the allocation and distribution of the TES have been unequitable throughout Mindanao and that there is delay in the distribution of the subsidy to student-beneficiaries in contravention of the intent of the law.

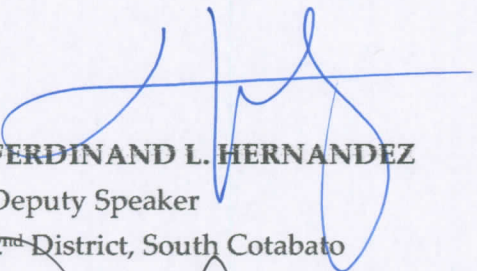
WHEREAS, there is a need to revisit and if necessary, revise the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act and the UniFAST Law and the guidelines set by the UniFAST Board in administering the TES to rectify existing problems in its implementation, avoid confusion among stakeholders, and prevent challenges from arising in the future.

¹ Section 2, R. A. No. 10931.

² Section 7, R. A. No. 10931.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, to direct the Committees on Higher and Technical Education and Good Government of the House of Representatives to jointly conduct an inquiry in aid of legislation to evaluate the implementation of the Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) under Republic Act No. 10931 and to review and examine the implementing guidelines set by the UniFAST Board to ensure that the intent of the law is effectively and efficiently carried out.

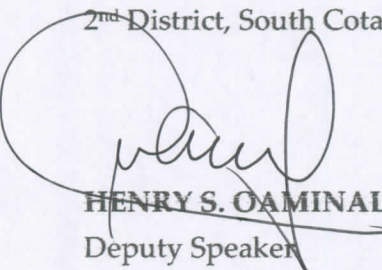
Adopted,



FERDINAND L. HERNANDEZ

Deputy Speaker

2nd District, South Cotabato



HENRY S. OAMINAL

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PROSPERO A. PICHAY, JR.

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