

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress
1st Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 754



Introduced by Representative JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL

A RESOLUTION
URGING THE BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION, IN COORDINATION WITH THE
STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES AND THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER
EDUCATION, TO ENSURE THE FIRE SAFETY COMPLIANCE OF BUILDINGS
FOR PUBLIC SAFETY IN ACCORDANCE TO REPUBLIC ACT 9514 (FIRE CODE
OF THE PHILIPPINES)

1 **WHEREAS**, Section 2 of the Fire Code of the Philippines (Republic Act 9541)
2 provides that it is the policy of the State to ensure public safety and promote
3 economic development through the prevention and suppression of all kinds of
4 destructive fires. Towards such end, it is incumbent upon the State to enforce all
5 laws, rules and regulations to ensure adherence to standard fire prevention and safe
6 measures, and promote accountability for fire safety in the fire protection service and
7 prevention service;

8
9 **WHEREAS**, Proclamation No. 115-A, s. 1966 notes that there is indisputable
10 evidence of a considerable rise in accident occurrence every year, especially in
11 schools, most of which are left unrecorded. As such, March has been declared as the
12 Fire Prevention Month;

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14 **WHEREAS**, summer of this year is fast approaching, where conflagration
15 usually occurs, it is the paramount interest of the State to ensure that the safety of
16 students in the schools, to which they attend to, must be made in highest priority;

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18 **WHEREAS**, even the University of the Philippines, the country's national
19 university, has not been spared from the occurrences of recent conflagration in its
20 landmark buildings. In the past five years, four of its historic buildings burnt down:
21 UP Shopping Center in 2018, UP Faculty Center in 2016, Casaa and the UP Alumni
22 Center both in 2015;

23
24 **WHEREAS**, there are reports that various higher education institutions and
25 SUCs, citing academic freedom, are non-compliant to the Fire Code of the Philippines'
26 requirement that facilities, structures, buildings and occupancies must possess Fire
27 Safety Inspection Certificates (FSIC) issued by the Bureau of Fire Protection;
28

1 **WHEREAS**, jurisprudence does not consider fire as a natural disaster or
2 calamity since it arises almost always from some acts of man. A high degree of
3 prudence must be exercised by SUCs and HEIs in protecting the safety of their
4 students;

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6 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF**
7 **REPRESENTATIVES TO URGE THE BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION, IN**
8 **COORDINATION WITH THE STATE UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES AND THE**
9 **COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION, TO ENSURE THE FIRE SAFETY**
10 **COMPLIANCE OF BUILDINGS FOR PUBLIC SAFETY IN ACCORDANCE TO**
11 **REPUBLIC ACT 9514 (FIRE CODE OF THE PHILIPPINES).**

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14 Adopted.

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19 **REP. JOHNNY T. PIMENTEL**



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