Republic of the Philippines HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 111



Introduced by KABATAAN PARTY-LIST REPRESENTATIVE SARAH JANE I. ELAGO

RESOLUTION

URGING THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION TO CONDUCT AN IMMEDIATE REVIEW OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF VOLUNTARY OPT-OUT MECHANISM AS PROVIDED IN REPUBLIC ACT 10931

WHEREAS, Republic Act 10931, Section 4 on Free Higher Education in State Universities and Colleges states that, "... That all SUCs and LUCs shall create a mechanism to enable students with the financial capacity to pay for their education in the SUC and LUC to voluntarily opt out of the tuition and other school fees subsidy or make a contribution to the school;"

WHEREAS, one of the powers and functions of SUC governing boards, according to RA 8292, is to "enact rules and regulations not contrary to law as may be necessary to carry to carry out the purposes and functions of the university or college;"

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WHEREAS, state universities and colleges have designed mechanisms to implement the said provision in RA 10931. For instance, Cagayan State University has the following waiver released through the Office of the Vice President for Administration and Finance as a requisite for enrolment in the current academic year;

WHEREAS, terms in the said waiver, particularly those numbered 3 and 4, have raised concerns of being another maneuver to undermine the right to education and an attempt to justify the already deferred return service system forcing students to opt-out of free public higher education;

WHEREAS, this weaponizes the waiver in attacking fundamental freedoms in campuses, especially since there have been a record number of victories relying on organized action against tuition and other fee increases, unreasonable policies of admission, among others;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the House Committee on Higher and Technical Education conduct an immediate review of the implementation of voluntary opt-out mechanism as provided in Republic Act 10931.

Adopted,

Rep. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO Kabataan Party-list