REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Resolution No. _____115



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

RESOLUTION URGING THE MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO UPHOLD THE "PHILIPPINE DECLARATION OF STUDENTS' RIGHTS

WHEREAS "Philippine Declaration of Students' Rights" was adopted at the National Students' Rights Summit held on November 17, 2018 at the Commission on Human Rights for the Philippine celebration of International Students' Day;

WHEREAS Filipino students, as citizens of our country, deserve the full enjoyment of democratic rights inside and outside the bounds of school, college and university campuses;

WHEREAS students experience two levels of repression, one from the university and the other is from the state;

WHEREAS students all over the country should be protected from diverse forms of threats and attacks to their rights and welfare, which can potentially impair efforts to assert the genuine interest of students;

WHEREAS the attainment of students' democratic rights must not be hindered by policies, programs and mechanisms in schools, colleges, universities and the country;

WHEREAS Filipino students and youth should spearhead efforts to uphold and defend the democratic rights and welfare of students all over the country;

WHEREAS the Filipino students and youth should pledge to work collectively towards achieving national respect for and observance of basic rights and freedoms of students;

WHEREAS common understanding of the rights of students is greatly significant in establishing unity among Filipino students and youth;

WHEREAS THEREFORE, we proclaim this PHILIPPINE DECLARATION OF STUDENTS' RIGHTS as a common standard across the whole country for educating, organizing and mobilizing the youth to secure respect, effective recognition and observance of the right of students:

- a. To be admitted and enrolled in schools, colleges and universities regardless of their physical appearance or disabilities, socio-economic status, political or religious beliefs, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, race, ethnicity, age or affiliation with organizations;
- b. To be provided access to free, quality and affordable education relevant to their personal, academic and social development and that of the nation;
- c. To have adequate and accessible academic facilities, spaces for organizations, and places that are conducive for meetings, leisure and other activities;
 - d. To have freedom of speech, expression, and inquiry;
- e. To form or join student organizations, alliances, federations or any formation for their academic, spiritual, cultural, physical, civic or political interests, and to have no external intervention in crafting the recognition process for the said formations;
- f. To establish student newspapers and other publications in the pursuit of academic freedom and freedom of expression without any outside censorship or interference:
- g. To establish an autonomous student council or government duly elected by the student body;
- h. To be represented by the duly elected student council or government in policy-making bodies of the school, college or university;
- i. To peaceably assemble or participate in protests or any form of mobilization for the interest of upholding and defending their democratic rights and to engage in campus, national, or social issues;
- j. To due process in disciplinary cases against them;

- k. To have access to vital information crucial for transparency and accountability such as budget allocation, financial statements, minutes of meetings, and others;
- I. To be guaranteed safety and security from any form of harm within the confines of the campus or in any activity held by the school, college or university;
- m. To have no military or police detachments or units stationed in their campus and non-interference by military, police, or school security elements in student activities within their campus;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the members of the House of Representatives uphold the "Philippine Declaration of Students' Rights".

Adopted,

Rep. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO Kabataan Party-list