Office of the Secretary

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES *Third Regular Session*

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P.S. Res. No.1076

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATUS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11648 OR AN ACT PROMOTING FOR STRONGER PROTECTION AGAINST RAPE AND SEXUAL EXPLOITATION AND ABUSE, INCREASING THE AGE FOR DETERMINING THE COMMISSION OF STATUTORY RAPE

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 11648 (RA 11648) was signed into law on March 04, 2022;

WHEREAS, the purpose of the law is to provide stronger protection for children from sexual abuse. It increased the age for determining the commission of statutory rape and other acts of sexual abuse and exploitation;

WHEREAS, Section 4 of RA 11648 provides that public and private institutions engaged in the education, training, and care of children shall ensure that their curriculum for continuing staff development included plans and learning sessions on the scope of their duties and responsibilities in identifying, responding to and reporting rape and other sexual offenses.

The Department of Education shall include in the basic education curriculum and teach age-appropriate subject concerning the rights and protection of the children in relation to this Act;

WHEREAS, in the hearing conducted by the Senate Committee on Basic Education on February 14, 2024, it was raised that teenage pregnancy was one of the major concerns affecting our country's 2022 Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) results;

WHEREAS, in the same hearing, according to the Department of Education (DepEd), it lacks a specific mechanism for monitoring such cases but is addressing the issue by reaching out to affected learners and their parents;

WHEREAS, the Philippine Statistics Authority's (PSA) 2017 and 2022 National Demographic and Health Surveys show that teenage pregnancy among Filipino women aged 15 to 19 years declined from 8.6 percent in 2017 to 5.4 percent in 2022;

WHEREAS, according to the same surveys, however, teenage pregnancy was most common among women aged 15 to 19 years with primary education or with completed grade levels 1 to 6 (19.1%). It was revealed that the percentage of teenage pregnancy decreases as educational attainment increases, that is, 5.3 percent among those who completed grade levels 7 to 10, 4.8 percent among those with completed grade levels 11 to 12, and 1.9 percent for those who attained college level;

WHEREAS, given the foregoing, it is imperative that the government conducts a comprehensive assessment and review of RA 11648 to ensure its effective implementation, guarantee the compliance of concerned government agencies and stakeholders and provide accessible and relevant education to the youth;

RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES, to direct the appropriate Senate committees to conduct and inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the status of the implementation of Republic Act No. 11648 or an act promoting for stronger protection against rape and sexual exploitation and abuse, increasing the age for determining the commission of statutory rape.

Adopted,

MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY