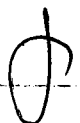


SENATE

P. S. RES. No. 1302

RECEIVED



Introduced by Senator Raffy T. Tulfo

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALLEGED UNAUTHORIZED OFF-CAMPUS ACTIVITY OF BESTLINK COLLEGE EXPOSED ITS STUDENTS TO SEVERE LOGISTICAL PROBLEMS AND SAFETY CONCERNS WITH THE END IN VIEW OF IDENTIFYING THE GAPS IN THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION'S POLICIES IN RELATION TO SCHOOLS' OFF-CAMPUS ACTIVITIES

1 WHEREAS, viral videos on social media showed that approximately 1,000
2 students of Bestlink College of the Philippines (hereinafter referred to as Bestlink) were
3 left stranded and forced to walk for hours along highways on the evening of January
4 26, 2025 after attending the school's 23rd founding anniversary celebration at Punta
5 Belle, Hermosa, Bataan;

6 WHEREAS, in the midst of this ordeal, there were students who passed out due
7 to hunger, fatigue and other health issues, thus, were carried by ambulance;

8 WHEREAS, said incident exposed the students to severe logistical problems and
9 safety concerns;

10 WHEREAS, students who went to the Wanted sa Radyo Program aired that
11 Bestlink mandated its more than 27,000 students to join the said out-of-town activity
12 and threatened that the non-participating students will face the pain of possibly failing
13 some of their subjects;

1 WHEREAS, the imposition of punitive measures upon the students who failed
2 to attend/join the activity is in violation of Commission on Higher Education (CHED)
3 Memorandum No. 63, s. 2017;

4 WHEREAS, Bestlink denied the aforesaid allegations and stated that details
5 publicized during the event were misinformation intended to damage its reputation;

6 WHEREAS, Bestlink was previously involved in another unfortunate fatal off-
7 campus activity in February 2017 wherein 13 of its students, a teacher and a bus driver
8 died and 40 were injured;

9 WHEREAS, as a consequence, CHED did not impose any sanction aside from
10 prohibiting Bestlink from conducting any off-campus activity;

11 WHEREAS, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) issued a show cause
12 order against Bestlink over its unauthorized off-campus activity, emphasizing that the
13 school made no submissions of required documents with CHED Regional Office
14 National Capital Region;

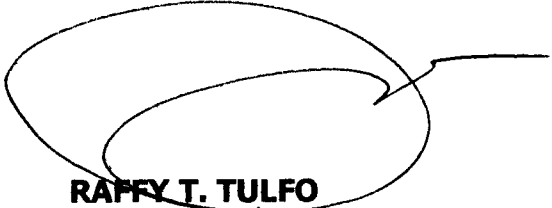
15 WHEREAS, CHED is mandated to establish and implement guidelines of
16 curricular and non-curricular off-campus activities of colleges and universities;

17 WHEREAS, there is a policy gap on regulating schools' off campus activities,
18 specifically on paper requirement submissions and risk assessments to ensure
19 students' safety during off-campus activities;

20 WHEREAS, it is important to probe this incident to bolster student safety and
21 welfare across all educational institutions;

22 RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, as it is hereby resolved, To conduct an inquiry in
23 aid of legislation, to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the alleged
24 unauthorized off-campus activity of Bestlink College exposed its students to severe
25 logistical problems and safety concerns with the end in view of identifying the gaps in
26 the CHED's policies in relation to schools' off-campus activities.

Adopted,



RAFFY T. TULFO