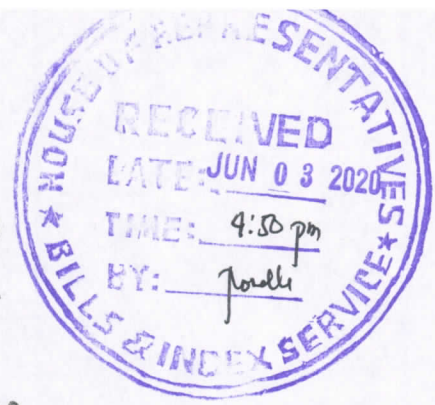


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 950



Introduced by
SENIOR CITIZEN Party-List Representative FRANCISCO "JUN" GAMBOA-DATOL, JR.

RESOLUTION

CALLING FOR THE CONTINUED SUSPENSION OF CLASSES IN ALL MODES OF LEARNING—ON-SITE, OFF-SITE, ONLINE, AND OFFLINE—IN ALL LEVELS OF PUBLIC AND PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS UNTIL A CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 (COVID-19) VACCINE HAS BEEN DEVELOPED AND MADE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE.

WHEREAS, Section 3 (2), Article XV of the 1987 Philippine Constitution mandates that "the right of children to assistance, including proper care and nutrition, and special protection from all forms of neglect, abuse, cruelty, exploitation, and other conditions prejudicial to their development." Furthermore, Section 15, Article II of the 1987 Philippine Constitution further mandates that "the State shall protect and promote the right to health of the people and instill health consciousness among them";

WHEREAS, the cases of COVID-19 in the Philippines continue to balloon and is now over 19,000 despite the series of community quarantines and testing being conducted by the government;

WHEREAS, even with the knowledge that the COVID-19 pandemic remain beyond our control the Department of Education (DepEd) issued Order No. 007-2020 to allow the resumption of classes on 24 August 2020 wherein the mode of learning shall be through online, classic (radio and television), and correspondence-based; Similarly, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) recommended flexible learning through correspondence-based and online classes while allowing schools to have physical attendance on 01 September 2020;

WHEREAS, the DepEd and CHED are planning to allow classes to resume on the above-mentioned dates even after knowing that our students' health continue to be at-risk from the COVID-19. In fact, in countries such as South Korea, their schools were forced to close its doors again days after opening due to a spike in COVID-19 infections that came with it;

WHEREAS, the DepEd and CHED plans to advance the above-mentioned remote learning initiatives for students even when majority of our underprivileged students are unable to effectively participate and access these initiatives due to their socio-economic status and the weak digital infrastructure in their location;

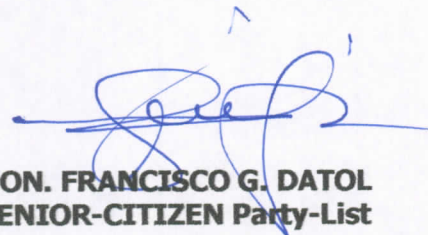
WHEREAS, to continue with these remote learning initiatives while our government is unable to fully provide adequate technical support to our underprivileged students is unjust and contrary to the mandate of our Constitution;

WHEREAS, without adequate technical support, our students' academic performance will be unfairly jeopardized by the digital divide and their own socio-economic circumstances;

WHEREAS, suspending classes in all modes of learning will ensure the protection of our students from the COVID-19 pandemic and allow our students, teachers, and their families to be more flexible as they adapt to the COVID-19 induced new normal;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the House of Representatives call for the immediate suspension of classes in all levels in all modes of learning — on-site, off-site, online, and offline — until and unless a vaccine against the COVID-19 has been developed and made publicly available.

Adopted,



HON. FRANCISCO G. DATOL
SENIOR-CITIZEN Party-List