INTRODUCED BY REPRESENTATIVE LUIS N. CAMPOS, JR.

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO CONDUCT AN INVESTIGATION IN AID OF LEGISLATION OF TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY’S (TESDA) LOW BUDGET UTILIZATION AND SLOW IMPLEMENTATION OF ITS PROGRAMS

WHEREAS, the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority ("TESDA") was created by Republic Act No. 7796 to educate and develop the skills and competencies of the Filipino workforce;

WHEREAS, in the 2019 annual audit, the Commission on Audit ("COA") noted TESDA’s poor performance in the implementation of its Special Employment Training Program ("STEP") which was allocated PhP 2.1 billion¹;

WHEREAS, the record also shows that in 2019, a total of 64,196 scholarship slots amounting to P1.1B were unutilized by TESDA;

WHEREAS, the COA report also noted that only 5.64 percent of 75,004 STEP graduates succeeded in getting employment compared to TESDA’s target of 65%;

WHEREAS, the association of Technical Vocational Institutions (TVI) also complained of TESDA Secretary Isidro Lapena’s alleged failure to implement training programs which aggravated the financial difficulties of the few impoverished surviving TVIs;

WHEREAS, the COVID 19 pandemic has displaced many workers – both domestic and overseas Filipino workers – who are now in need of immediate training to enable them acquire the needed skills to survive the pandemic;

WHEREAS, despite the urgent need for our workers to acquire the necessary skills and training, it is projected that 173,068 scholarship slots amounting to P2.6B will be unutilized by TESDA in 2020; and

WHEREAS, it is unfortunate that while the entire Philippine Government, particularly Congress, treated with extreme urgency the enactment of Bayanihan I and Bayanihan II in order to appropriate the much needed funds to agencies in charge of supporting our people in this time of pandemic, TESDA fails to efficiently and effectively perform its mandate.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the House of Representatives, directing the appropriate committee of the House of Representatives to conduct an investigation in aid of legislation into Technical Education and Skills Development Authority’s (TESDA) low budget utilization and slow implementation of its programs.

Adopted,

REP. LUIS N. CAMPOS, JR.

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