

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City, Metro Manila

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

House Resolution No. 657



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Introduced by **KABATAAN PARTY-LIST Representative Sarah Jane I. Elago**

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**RESOLUTION**

**URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION, AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY TO IMPOSE MORATORIUM ON TUITION AND OTHER FEE INCREASES (TOFI) ON ALL EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AMID CALAMITIES**

**WHEREAS**, Article XIV, Education, Science and Technology, Arts, Culture, and Sports, Section 1 of the Philippine Constitution declares that "*the State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all*;

**WHEREAS**, it is also the policy of the state to meet the needs of its people, most especially in times of crisis;

**WHEREAS**, in the past months, Filipinos experience series of displacement, loss and devastation wrought by typhoons Tisoy and Ursula, earthquakes in Mindanao, and the eruption of Taal volcano among recent calamities;

**WHEREAS**, apart from our efforts and calls to provide immediate relief and fast release of aid to all affected communities, a tuition moratorium is necessary to give the people, especially the parents and students, a much-needed respite as they rebuild their homes and their lives while ensuring learning continuity;

**WHEREAS**, the onslaught of typhoons and earthquakes in the second half of 2019 alone left billions of damages in schools, hospitals, homes, with thousands of evacuees and displaced students, teachers and workers;

**WHEREAS**, this 2020, classes in Tisoy and Ursula-hit areas resume in tents or other temporary learning spaces. 'Double shifting' of classes is also being implemented to accommodate the high number of students;

**WHEREAS**, since the eruption of Taal, the Department of Education reports about 2.4 million students affected with 1,055 personnel and 30,814 learners in 78 public schools located in the 14-km radius danger zone of the volcano, and about 1,600 classrooms in 141 nearby public schools which are accommodating more than 58,000 people;

**WHEREAS**, particularly in higher education, more than half, 52.7% or 1.7 million, are enrolled in private institutions out of the total number of students at 3.2-million. Yearly average tuition and other school fee increases under the Duterte administration:

<b>Academic Year</b>	<b>2017-2018</b>	<b>2018-2019</b>	<b>2019-2020</b>
Tuition Increase (%)	6.96	10.88	10.7
Other School Fee Increase (%)	6.9	12.84	12.89

*Source: Commission on Higher Education*

Fee hikes almost doubled since the enactment TRAIN law which likewise contributed to unprecedented price increases food and other commodities;

**WHEREAS**, in fact, stopping the increases on tuition and other school fee (TOSF) is long overdue because of the skyrocketing cost of education due to decades-long policies of deregulation and commercialization, while wage increases remain very low. Any TOSF increase spells an additional burden aggravated by already high prices of goods, meager salaries, and contractualization on top of the dire impact of rice tariffication law on farmers and agriculture at large;

**NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the members of the House of Representatives strongly urge the Departments of Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) to impose a moratorium on any school fee increase, be it tuition, miscellaneous, and other schools fees on all public and private educational institutions.

*Adopted,*

**Rep. SARAH JANE I. ELAGO**  
*Kabataan Party-List*

