

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Sixteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1814



Introduced by: **REP. ROMAN T. ROMULO**

A RESOLUTION DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON HIGHER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION TO INQUIRE, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATE OF TEACHER EDUCATION IN THE COUNTRY, PARTICULARLY ON THE LOW PASSING RATES OF EXAMINEES IN THE LICENSURE EXAMINATION FOR TEACHERS, WITH THE END IN VIEW OF IMPROVING THE QUALITY OF TEACHERS AND THE DELIVERY OF QUALITY EDUCATION

WHEREAS, the quality of education depends largely on the qualifications and competencies of teachers:

WHEREAS, the 1991 Congressional Commission on Education (EDCOM) recommended important measures to enhance teacher effectiveness which include the following: imposition of higher admission requirements for pre-service teacher education; establishing centers of excellence for teacher education to attract the best candidates; providing targeted scholarships for mathematics and science teacher education; establishing periodic licensure tests to qualify college graduates to teach and to determine promotions; and improving and establishing teacher benefits, among others:

WHEREAS, the number of students enrolling in teacher education has increased over the years, thereby becoming one of the three professional disciplines with the highest enrollment:

WHEREAS, the increase in the number of enrollees in teacher education has prompted the CHED to consider it as an oversubscribed course, thereby excluding it from the list of priority courses recommended for college applicants:

WHEREAS, the proliferation of higher education institutions (HEIs) offering teacher education created a situation where Teacher Education Institutions (TEIs) not only produced too many graduates, but contributed to the worsening of the problem of low quality of teachers:

WHEREAS, a World Bank study showed that between 1996 and 1998, the number of TEIs increased and reached more than 800, which resulted in the opening of low-quality programs that did not meet the minimum standards of accreditation and only less than 30 percent complied with the minimum standards set by the CHED for teacher education:

WHEREAS, the World Bank study lamented that most of the TEI graduates do not pass the Licensure Examination for Teachers (LET) even if it replaced the Professional Board Examination for Teachers (PBET), which had an average national passing rate of only about 24 percent from 1992 to 1995, with the enactment into law of Republic Act 7836:

WHEREAS, based on a study conducted by the Philippine Business for Education (PBed) on the LET performance of all TEIs in the Philippines for nine instances of LET from October 2009 to September 2013, the national passing rate was only 54 percent:

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WHEREAS, the same study revealed that only eight out of 16 graduates who are first-time takers pass the LET while the other eight repeaters have an average passing rate of only 16 percent:

WHEREAS, while there are top TEIs, the PBed study found it also alarming that there are more than 100 TEIs that perform below the national passing rate and are considered "worse performing schools" because only less than 20 percent of their graduates pass the LET while 17 TEIs were considered "worst performing schools" for having zero passers in the LET since October 2009 for both first-time takers and repeaters based on data from the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC):

WHEREAS, data released by the PRC for the 2014 LET results alone showed that only 35.74 percent or 25,301 elementary teachers out of 70,786 examinees and only 34.40 percent or 26,767 secondary teachers out of 77,803 examinees passed the LET given on August 17, 2014:

WHEREAS, in January 2014, the PRC announced that only 28.98 percent or 11,120 elementary teachers out of 38,377 examinees and only 28.41 percent or 12,033 secondary teachers out of 42,358 examinees successfully passed the LET:

WHEREAS, in the "Review and Assessment of Programs Offered by State Universities and Colleges (SUCs)" conducted by the Philippine Institute for Development Studies (PIDS) in March 2014, it was revealed that the average passing rates of SUCs in LET from 2004 to 2011 have been below 30 percent of the national passing average:

WHEREAS, the PIDS study also showed that a number of SUCs had passing rates that are lower than the national passing rates for three consecutive years between 2004 and 2011:

WHEREAS, the Philippine Normal University was designated as the National Center for Teacher Education with the enactment into law of RA 9647, which mandates it to share research and competence in education research with other TEIs and to advise the country's policy-makers and decision-makers in planning, implementing and evaluating reforms in teacher education, including the licensing of professional teachers:

WHEREAS, there is an urgent need to look into the state of teacher education in the country and to implement the necessary reforms that will address the various issues and concerns and prevent the further deterioration of the quality of teachers in the country:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the House of Representatives direct the Committee on Higher and Technical Education to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the state of teacher education in the country, particularly on the low passing rates of examinees in the LET, with the end in view of improving the quality of teachers and the delivery of quality education.

Adopted.



REP. ROMAN T. ROMULO