Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1467

Introduced by Representative ROMAN T. ROMULO

RESOLUTION URGING ALL LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS TO PASS AN ORDINANCE WAIVING ALL REGULATORY FEES DUE FROM PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS IN BASIC EDUCATION, TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL AND IN THE HIGHER EDUCATION

WHEREAS, President Rodrigo Roa Duterte issued Proclamation No. 922 on 08 March 2020 declaring a "State of Public Health Emergency" throughout the Philippines. On 16 March 2020, Proclamation No. 929 was subsequently issued declaring a "State of Calamity Throughout the Philippines due to Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19)".

WHEREAS, physical distancing and community quarantine being among the measures employed to contain the spread of the COVID-19, various sectors, including the education sector, were greatly affected, thereby causing slowdown of business operations and unemployment;

WHEREAS, the necessity to conduct distance learning prejudiced the normal school programs both in the public and private educational institutions in the basic education, vocational and technological and higher education, limiting both scholastic and extra-curricular activities.

WHEREAS, according to the Department of Education (DepEd), 865 private schools have closed down for the School Year 2020-2021, affecting more than 3,000 teachers and 40,000 students. There are also 398,000 students who have migrated to the public school system at the start of the current school year;

WHEREAS, due to the serious financial constraint brought about by low enrollment in all private educational institutions, many faculty, teachers and school personnel are also affected. Currently, there are 409,757 teachers, faculty and school personnel in private educational institutions all over the country who are either on reduced pay or not being paid at all because of cessation of work;
WHEREAS, while Section 132 of Republic Act No. 7160, known as the Local Government Code of 1991, provides that the power to impose tax, fee or charge or to generate revenue under the law shall be exercised by the sanggunian of the local government unit concerned through an appropriate ordinance, Section 192 of the same law allows the local government units, through ordinances duly approved, to grant tax exemptions, incentives or reliefs under such terms and conditions as they may deem necessary.

WHEREAS, the grant of the waiver of fees by the local government units will provide the private educational institutions and their employees reprieve from the harshness brought about by this pandemic, while ensuring continuity of quality education for all learners through sustainable operations.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, as it is hereby resolved, to urge all local government units to pass an ordinance waiving the collection of all forms of regulatory fees due from private educational institutions in the basic education, technical and vocational, and higher education for the calendar year 2021-2022.

ADOPTED,

[Signature]

ROMAN T. ROMULO
Representative, Lone District of Pasig City