Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

Eighteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 1554

Introduced by Honorable Mark O. Go

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION AND CULTURE, AND THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON INDIGENOUS CULTURAL COMMUNITIES AND INDIGENOUS PEOPLES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE ALLEGED DISCRIMINATORY AND ERRONEOUS STATEMENTS AGAINST IGOROTS IN SELF-LEARNING MODULES DISTRIBUTED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

WHEREAS, in response to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, and the adoption of the new normal in the delivery of basic education services, the Department of Education introduced the use of Self-Learning Modules (SLMs) as an alternative learning delivery modality, to be delivered in printed format to households with basic education learners;

WHEREAS, photos of alleged Self-Learning Modules containing several erroneous and discriminatory statements against Igorots, which perpetuate misinformation, and a negative depiction of the appearance and culture of Igorots, have been widely circulated in social media platforms;

WHEREAS, the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall recognize, respect, and protect the rights of indigenous cultural communities to preserve and develop their cultures, traditions, and institutions;

WHEREAS, the use of any insensitive, erroneous and discriminatory statements against Igorots, or any of the indigenous peoples and indigenous cultural communities in the Philippines, violates Constitutionally guaranteed rights, and perpetuates social divisiveness, inimicable to Filipino solidarity, nation-building and inclusive growth;

WHEREAS, educators and personnel of the Department of Education, responsible for the academic, cultural, social, and moral development of Filipino children, must stand at the forefront of eliminating all forms of discrimination, in particular that against Filipino indigenous peoples and indigenous cultural communities;

WHEREAS, the Department of Education (DepEd) must hold accountable those responsible for the alleged use of such erroneous and discriminatory statements in the distributed
Self-Learning Modules, and must take immediate and appropriate measures to correct the errors
contained therein, and in particular DepEd’s Bureau of Learning Resources to conduct a thorough
assessment and review of all learning materials produced by the Department and distributed to
learners in order to correct all erroneous content, and ensure that no misinformation and any form
of prejudice is perpetuated thru such learning materials.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED AS IT HEREBY RESOLVED, that the
House of Representatives directs its Committee on Basic Education and Culture and Committee
on Indigenous Cultural Communities and Indigenous Peoples to conduct an inquiry, in aid of
legislation, on the alleged discriminatory ad erroneous statements against Igorots in Self-Learning
Modules distributed by the Department of Education.

Adopted,

MARK O. GO