RESOLUTION NO. 117

RESOLUTION URGING PRESIDENT RODRIGO ROA DUTERTE, THROUGH THE INTER-AGENCY TASK FORCE (IATF) FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF EMERGING INFECTIOUS DISEASES AND THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION, TO ALLOW THE CONDUCT OF "FACE-TO-FACE" CLASSES IN THE PROVINCE OF BATANES WHICH IS A LOW-RISK AND COVID-FREE PROVINCE

WHEREAS, the basic education system in the country is adversely affected by the COVID-19 pandemic which prompted the closure of schools and community learning centers to protect the health and safety of students and teachers;
WHEREAS, the Department of Education (DepEd) issued DepEd Order No. 12, series of 2020 on 19 June 2020 adopting the Basic Education - Learning Continuity Plan (BE-LCP) as a package of education interventions in response to the challenges in basic education caused by the current pandemic;

WHEREAS, the BE-LCP provides for multiple learning delivery modes and platforms, namely, face-to-face, distance learning, and blended learning classes, which the schools may choose to adopt depending on the risk severity classification of the community, pursuant to the guidelines issued by the Department of Health (DOH) and the Inter-agency Task Force (IATF) for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases;

WHEREAS, the DepEd has expressed its full support to the pronouncement of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte for the prohibition of face-to-face classes until a vaccine has been found for the COVID-19 disease;

WHEREAS, while distance learning is the current policy of the government, the Province of Batanes is one of the areas in the country that has poor internet connectivity which makes online classes difficult, if not impossible;

WHEREAS, the DepEd’s Learner Enrollment Survey Form (LESF) reported that 8.65 million enrollees prefer modular learning, 3.95 million enrollees prefer face-to-face learning combined with other modalities, 2.6 million enrollees prefer TV and radio broadcast, and only 3.37 million enrollees prefer online distance learning;

WHEREAS, to date, the Province of Batanes is COVID-free and has been consistently declared and classified by the DOH and IATF as a very low-risk area;

WHEREAS, the average teacher-student ratio in the Province of Batanes is approximately 1:11 or 1:12 at the elementary and secondary levels, respectively, hence, conducting face-to-face classes in the province is realistic and practical inasmuch as the low number of students per class shall allow social distancing to be observed;

WHEREAS, the earnest request to allow the conduct of face-to-face classes in the Province of Batanes is fully supported by Batanes Governor Marilou H. Cayco, the Provincial Inter-agency Task Force (PIATF), the six (6) municipal mayors of Batanes, teachers, parents, and other stakeholders in the province: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, as it is hereby resolved by the House of Representatives, To urge President Rodrigo Roa Duterte, through the Inter-agency Task Force (IATF) for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases and the Department of Education, to allow the conduct of “face-to-face” classes in the Province of Batanes which is a low-risk and COVID-free province.

Resolved, further, That a copy of this Resolution be furnished the Office of the President, the DepEd, and the IATF.

Adopted,

LORD ALAN JAY Q. VELASCO
Speaker

This Resolution was adopted by the House of Representatives on November 16, 2020.

JOCELIA BIGHANI C. SIPIN
Secretary General
WHEREAS, the Department of Education (DepEd) issued DepEd Order No. 12, series of 2020 on 19 June 2020 adopting the Basic Education - Learning Continuity Plan (BE-LCP) as a package of education interventions in response to the challenges in basic education caused by the current pandemic;

WHEREAS, the BE-LCP provides for multiple learning delivery modes and platforms, namely, face-to-face, distance learning, and blended learning classes, which the schools may choose to adopt depending on the risk severity classification of the community, pursuant to the guidelines issued by the Department of Health (DOH) and the Inter-agency Task Force (IATF) for the Management of Emerging Infectious Diseases;

WHEREAS, the DepEd has expressed its full support to the pronouncement of President Rodrigo Roa Duterte for the prohibition of face-to-face classes until a vaccine has been found for the COVID-19 disease;

WHEREAS, while distance learning is the current policy of the government, the Province of Batanes is one of the areas in the country that has poor internet connectivity which makes online classes difficult, if not impossible;

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WHEREAS, to date, the Province of Batanes is COVID-free and has been consistently declared and classified by the DOH and IATF as a very low-risk area;

WHEREAS, the average teacher-student ratio in the Province of Batanes is approximately 1:11 or 1:12 at the elementary and secondary levels, respectively, hence, conducting face-to-face classes in the province is realistic and practical inasmuch as the low number of students per class shall allow social distancing to be observed;

WHEREAS, the earnest request to allow the conduct of face-to-face classes in the Province of Batanes is fully supported by Batanes Governor Marilou H. Cayco, the Provincial Inter-agency Task Force (PIATF), the six (6) municipal mayors of Batanes, teachers, parents, and other stakeholders in the province: Now, therefore, be it

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Resolved, further, That a copy of this Resolution be furnished the Office of the President, the DepEd, and the IATF.

Adopted,

LORD ALLAN JAY Q. VELASCO
Speaker

This Resolution was adopted by the House of Representatives on November 16, 2020.

JOCELSIA BIGHANI C. SIPIN
Secretary General