

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

**HOUSE RESOLUTION NO. 588**

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Introduced by Bayan Muna Reps. Teodoro A. Casiño and Satur S. Ocampo,  
Gabriela Women's Party Reps. Liza L. Maza and Luzviminda C. Ilagan,  
and Anakpawis Rep. Crispin C. Beltran

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**RESOLUTION**  
**URGING THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION TO STRICTLY IMPLEMENT THE**  
**LAWS AND GUIDELINES PROHIBITING THE COLLECTION OF FEES FROM**  
**STUDENTS IN PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

**WHEREAS**, Article XIV, Section 1 of the Philippine Constitution states "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**, Republic Act 6655 or the "Free Public Secondary Act of 1988" declared that it is the policy of the state to provide free secondary education to all qualified students and to promote quality education at all levels;

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act 4206 prohibits the collection of contributions from school children of public primary and intermediate schools;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Education (DepEd) by virtue of DepEd Order no. 19 dated March 19, 2008, enumerated guidelines on the voluntary collection of fees from students, reiterating that parents and students should not be compelled to pay any amount as a requirement for enrollment and admission;

**WHEREAS**, these voluntary fees includes payments for: 1) Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts of the Philippines, 2) Philippine National Red Cross, 3) anti-TB education and Fund drive, 4) Student Government, 5) School Paper, 6) Parents and Teachers' Community Association, Inc., 7) Student Organization membership fee, 8) contributions in forms of required ticket sales which sometimes total more than Php 300, varying from school to school;

**WHEREAS**, despite passage of the aforementioned laws and guidelines, it is a common practice to collect fees upon enrollment from the parents and students, making such payment appear as a requisite for studying in the school;

**WHEREAS**, experience shows that the collection of such fees, which are said to be voluntary, have been made a condition not only for admission but also for release of report cards, test results and clearances, many times causing strained relationship

between the school teachers and administrators and the parents and students opposed to such collection of fees;

**WHEREAS**, the collection of such fees discourages students of poor families from attending school;

**WHEREAS**, during last year's enrollment period, there were report of non-compliance of the school administrators to the guidelines enumerated in a previous DepEd order, such as posting an announcement clearly stating that "enrolment is free, no contribution/fee has to be paid to enroll your child" and as such in both English and Filipino and even the local dialect; and that volunteers from PTCA and students will be the ones to collect fees while teachers and school administrators are prohibited from participating in the collection of fees;

**WHEREAS**, more than 17 million public school students face much difficulty with the lack of classrooms, teachers and textbooks, and to be further burdened by the collection of such fees that are voluntary in paper but not so often in practice;

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED**, that the House of Representatives urge the Department of Education to strictly implement laws and guidelines prohibiting the collection of fees from students in public elementary and secondary schools.

So approved,

**TEODORO A. CASIÑO**  
Bayan Muna Party-List

**SATUR C. OCAMPO**  
Bayan Muna Party-List

**CRISPIN B. BELTRAN**  
Anakpawis Party-List

**LIZA L. MAZA**  
Gabriela Women's Party

**LUZVIMINDA C. ILAGAN**  
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