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SENATE

P. S. RESOLUTION NO. 218

RECEIVED BY: 

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Introduced by Senator JOEL VILLANUEVA

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RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, ARTS AND CULTURE AND THE COMMITTEE ON LABOR, EMPLOYMENT AND HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATUS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT 10647 OR THE "LADDERIZED EDUCATION ACT OF 2014"

**WHEREAS**, Republic Act 10647, entitled "*An Act Strengthening the Ladderized Interface Between Technical-Vocational Education and Training and Higher Education,*" otherwise known as the "*Ladderized Education Act of 2014,*" was approved on November 21, 2014 while its Implementing Rules and Regulations was issued by DepEd, TESDA and CHED in January, 2015;

**WHEREAS**, the Ladderized Education Act will facilitate the "permeability" between various forms of education such as senior high school and tertiary education or technical vocational education and training and college. Thus, providing a mechanism where students can finish a tech-voc course, work, and if they choose to, return for a more advanced level or even move into a college degree;

**WHEREAS**, the law provides educational and training institutions an opportunity to focus on current and emerging industry needs, design programs for current needs but flexible enough to accommodate new requirements, and to collaborate nationally and regionally in response to workplace restructuring due to global value chain, fast changing technologies and shifts in demographic trends;

**WHEREAS**, the DepED, TESDA and CHED are mandated to closely coordinate in the development of ladderized education, as well as mechanisms to credit tech-voc courses as college units. Furthermore, through the Philippine Qualifications Framework National Coordinating Council (PQF-NCC), these agencies shall undertake the development and maintenance of

pathways and equivalencies system and alignment with international qualifications framework to support the mobility of Filipino workers. However, the PQF-NCC held its only meeting in May this year due to several reasons, primarily, change in leadership in the education sector;

**WHEREAS**, the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Department of Education (DepEd) and Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) have endorsed the ASEAN Qualifications Referencing Framework (AQRF) which calls for a voluntary report on the referencing of the Philippine Qualifications Framework (PQF) against the AQRF by 2018;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 5 of RA 10647, education agencies are directed to identify priority disciplines and programs for ladderization, taking into account labor market realities in consultation with the industry and related agencies. For purposes of career education and guidance, it is imperative to inform students and their parents of priority disciplines and programs for ladderization. The program will be beneficial to families who may find it difficult to enroll their children in college from high school because of financial constraints to consider taking-up tech-voc courses which are shorter in duration and fees are cheaper;

**WHEREAS**, the integration of TVET in the K-12 Program and the continuous development of higher technology qualifications require innovative ladderization of disciplines other than those presently being implemented to enable more tech-voc graduates earn units for college degrees. Likewise, to prevent the tendency among students to select popular and oversubscribed courses but with very low employment rates;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 6 of RA 10647, the DepEd, TESDA, and CHED in consultation with the PRC and the industries are directed to jointly devise systems, procedures, and mechanisms, as well as to issue, amend and update existing implementing guidelines. For the benefit of both public and private educational institutions, these new guidelines must be disseminated nationwide to encourage wider participation in the Ladderized Education Program;

**WHEREAS**, pursuant to Section 8 of RA 10647, to ensure the effective implementation and greater nationwide impact of the program and its accessibility to the students and workers, the DepEd, TESDA and CHED shall include in their respective budgets the provision of scholarships, grants and loans to deserving students and workers availing themselves of the ladderized system of education, in addition to the present scholarship programs being implemented by the CHED and TESDA. With the on-going deliberation of the 2017 budget, concerned government agencies should report to and inform Congress of the funds necessary for the continuous implementation of the Ladderized Education Act of 2014;

**WHEREAS**, the effective implementation of RA 10647 will open and expand new life opportunities for Filipino learners, especially tech-voc students who can leave the education highway at any point and be job-ready.

Furthermore, the realization of the objectives of this law can produce learners who are better prepared not only in terms of the current requirements of the workplace but also in adapting to their rapidly changing environment;

**RESOLVED BY THE SENATE, to direct the Committee on Education, Arts and Culture and the Committee on Labor, Employment and Human Resources Development to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the status of the implementation of Republic Act 10647 or the "Ladderized Education Act of 2014".**

Adopted,

  
SENATOR JOEL VILLANUEVA