



SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Third Regular Session )

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SENATE

RECEIVED

P.S. Res No. 1011

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Introduced by **Senator Cynthia A. Villar**

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**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE CURRENT STATE OF ACEF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM IN THE LIGHT OF COMPLAINTS THAT THE STUDENTS WHO APPLIED FOR SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS HAVE NOT BEEN PAID THEIR ENTITLEMENT BY GOVERNMENT**

**WHEREAS**, In RA 10848 or the Act Further Extending the Agricultural Competitiveness Enhancement Fund or ACEF up to 2022, was approved in May 2016 and provided for a scholarship program in order to produce "quality and competitive graduates nationwide" that will help the country's agricultural sector.

**WHEREAS**, the law retained the ten percent (10%) of the ACEF Fund for scholarship and the Commission on Higher Education or CHED is mandated to implement a comprehensive and attractive grants-in-aid program for agriculture, forestry, fisheries, and veterinary medicine education.

**WHEREAS**, many young people find agriculture less attractive as a profession and not profitable compared to white collar jobs. The share of agriculture employment is 12.1 Million or 32.3% of the country's labor force.

**WHEREAS**, this program was meant to promote agriculture and food security.

**WHEREAS**, the program was meant to assist undergraduate, post-secondary, and returning students enrolled in agriculture, forestry, fisheries, and veterinary medicine courses in select state universities and colleges, technical-vocational schools, and accredited private higher education institutions.

**WHEREAS**, according to the scholars they have not received any of their benefits, due to complications in the application process, absence of a general list of scholars to be paid, among others.

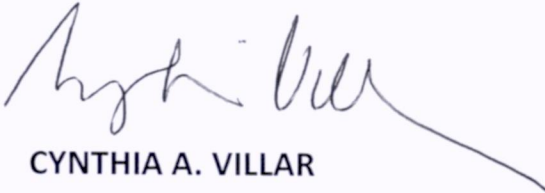
**WHEREAS**, In November 2018, as Chair of the Committee on Agriculture and Food, I wrote the Department of Agriculture through Undersecretary Ranibai D. Dilangalen, USec. for Special Concerns and copy furnished the CHED Chairman requesting for an update, but to this date, we have not received a formal reply.

**WHEREAS**, the CHED and the DA have been remised considering so much time has elapsed to act on their obligation for the students in particular and the agriculture sector in general.

**WHEREAS**, corrective and remedial measures must be undertaken as soon as possible to address this concern.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** by the Philippine Senate, to direct the appropriate Senate Committee to investigate, in aid of legislation, the implementation or non-implementation of the scholarship program provided for in RA 10848 or the Extended Agricultural Competitive Enhancement Fund.

*Adopted,*

  
**CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**