

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session

House Resolution No. 2165



Introduced by REPRESENTATIVES SARAH JANE I. ELAGO, CARLOS ISAGANI T. ZARATE, EMMI A. DE JESUS, ANTONIO L. TINIO, ARLENE D. BROSAS, FRANCE I. CASTRO, AND ARIEL B. CASILAO

RESOLUTION

URGING THE HOUSE COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS TO RESTORE THE P584 MILLION BUDGET SLASHED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT IN THE MAINTENANCE AND OTHER OPERATING EXPENSES (MOOE) OF 63 SUCS, AND SUBSTANTIALLY AUGMENT BUDGET ALLOCATION FOR CAPITAL OUTLAY (CO) AND PUBLIC TERTIARY EDUCATION SYSTEM

WHEREAS, Section 1, Article XIV of the 1987 Constitution provides that: “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, Section 5(5) of the same Article states that: “The State shall assign the highest budgetary priority to education and ensure that teaching will attract and retain its rightful share of the best available talents through adequate remuneration and other means of job satisfaction and fulfillment;”

WHEREAS, in the proposed 2019 national budget, SUCs are given an immediately accessible budget of P61.57 billion (P61,572,413,000.00), a decrease of only P543 million (P542,907,000.00) or 0.87% from the current P62.112 billion (P62,115,320,000.00). However, a closer scrutiny of the budget reveals massive cuts in their budget for maintenance, operations, and infrastructures.

WHEREAS, 63 out of 114 SUCs are set to incur cuts in their overall budget, while also 63 schools are set to sustain cuts in their operating budget.

The following SUCs are affected:

1. SUCs with net budget decrease

School		NET BUDGET CUT (in '000)			
		2018	2019	Decrease	% cut
1	Batanes State College	111,410	50,275	(61,135)	- 54.87%
2	Adiong Memorial Polytechnic State College	117,678	57,309	(60,369)	- 51.30%
3	Northwestern Mindanao State College of Science and Technology	126,073	61,922	(64,151)	- 50.88%
4	Leyte Normal University	391,254	194,606	(196,648)	- 50.26%
5	Northwest Samar State University	289,376	155,172	(134,204)	- 46.38%
6	University of Science and Technology of Southern Philippines - Claveria Campus	168,438	96,093	(72,345)	- 42.95%
7	Quirino State University	296,707	171,734	(124,973)	- 42.12%
8	Basilan State College	160,894	95,603	(65,291)	- 40.58%
9	North Luzon Philippines State College	134,544	83,759	(50,785)	- 37.75%
10	Tawi-Tawi Regional Agricultural College	169,786	105,781	(64,005)	- 37.70%
11	Siquijor State College	115,403	72,646	(42,757)	- 37.05%
12	Zamboanga City State Polytechnic College	266,212	168,226	(97,986)	- 36.81%
13	Compostela Valley State College	140,124	89,757	(50,367)	- 35.94%
14	Apayao State College	163,918	108,273	(55,645)	- 33.95%
15	Palompon Polytechnic State University	246,498	167,129	(79,369)	- 32.20%
16	Western Philippines University	327,091	223,109	(103,982)	- 31.79%
17	University of Science and Technology of Southern Philippines - Cagayan de Oro Campus	425,304	292,969	(132,335)	- 31.12%

18	Samar State University	328,756	229,282	(99,474)	- 30.26%
19	Marikina Polytechnic College	179,201	125,303	(53,898)	- 30.08%
20	Naval State University	229,691	166,634	(63,057)	- 27.45%
21	Zamboanga State College of Marine Sciences and Technology	193,497	143,775	(49,722)	- 25.70%
22	Cotabato Foundation College of Science and Technology	218,639	166,245	(52,394)	- 23.96%
23	Aurora State College of Technology	194,811	150,973	(43,838)	- 22.50%
24	Visayas State University	927,519	742,982	(184,537)	- 19.90%
25	Eastern Samar State University	472,855	384,444	(88,411)	- 18.70%
26	University of Eastern Philippines	545,233	445,916	(99,317)	- 18.22%
27	University of Southern Mindanao	613,227	509,772	(103,455)	- 16.87%
28	Davao Oriental State College of Science and Technology	258,623	217,994	(40,629)	- 15.71%
29	Bulacan State University	704,731	598,591	(106,140)	- 15.06%
30	Romblon State University	315,450	269,406	(46,044)	- 14.60%
31	Sultan Kudarat State University	359,356	308,392	(50,964)	- 14.18%
32	Ifugao State University	381,624	329,155	(52,469)	- 13.75%
33	Pampanga State Agricultural University	387,309	339,174	(48,135)	- 12.43%
34	Philippine Normal University	792,255	694,161	(98,094)	- 12.38%
35	Central Bicol State University of Agriculture	524,750	468,390	(56,360)	- 10.74%
36	Batangas State University	553,102	498,546	(54,556)	-9.86%
37	Pangasinan State University	666,612	609,056	(57,556)	-8.63%
38	Sulu State College	120,224	110,263	(9,961)	-8.29%
39	Western Mindanao State University	652,098	602,141	(49,957)	-7.66%

40	Tarlac Agricultural University	321,114	298,917	(22,197)	-6.91%
41	Southern Leyte State University	300,741	281,202	(19,539)	-6.50%
42	Central Philippines State University	193,733	181,361	(12,372)	-6.39%
43	Marinduque State College	194,333	182,637	(11,696)	-6.02%
44	Eulogio "Amang" Rodriuez Institute of Science and Technology	237,040	223,326	(13,714)	-5.79%
45	University of Northern Philippines	620,632	584,802	(35,830)	-5.77%
46	Northern Iloilo State University/ NIPSC	385,052	363,620	(21,432)	-5.57%
47	MSU - Tawi-Tawi College of Technology and Oceanography	555,981	527,461	(28,520)	-5.13%
48	Central Luzon State University	860,670	817,022	(43,648)	-5.07%
49	Southern Luzon State University	310,499	296,778	(13,721)	-4.42%
50	University of the Philippines System	16,156,097	15,459,194	(696,903)	-4.31%
51	Mountain Province State Polytechnic College (MPSU)	262,472	252,146	(10,326)	-3.93%
52	Central Mindanao University	627,481	603,218	(24,263)	-3.87%
53	Camiguin Polytechnic State College	78,251	75,355	(2,896)	-3.70%
54	University of Rizal System	489,417	472,041	(17,376)	-3.55%
55	Eastern Visayas State University	394,009	380,226	(13,783)	-3.50%
56	Bulacan Agricultural State College	210,283	202,947	(7,336)	-3.49%
57	Ilocos Sur Polytechnic State College	230,698	225,771	(4,927)	-2.14%
58	MSU - Iligan Institute of Technology	1,011,375	989,955	(21,420)	-2.12%
59	University of Antique	362,177	355,460	(6,717)	-1.85%
60	Jose Rizal Memorial State College	368,016	361,639	(6,377)	-1.73%
61	Northern Negros State College of Science and Technology	180,980	179,399	(1,581)	-0.87%
62	West Visayas State University	1,252,444	1,243,003	(9,441)	-0.75%
63	Rizal Technological University	402,682	402,051	(631)	-0.16%

WHEREAS, the total budget for maintenance and other operating expenses (MOOE) was increased by P372 million (P371,808,000.00) in 2019, however, still a total of 584 million (P583,705,000.00) budget decrease will be suffered by 63 SUCs.

2. SUC with MOOE cuts

School		MOOE BUDGET CUT (in '000)			
		2018	2019	Decrease	% cut
NCR					
1	Eulogio "Amang" Rodriguez Institute of Science and Technology	47,313	33,118	(14,195)	- 30.00%
2	Marikina Polytechnic College	21,035	19,637	(1,398)	-6.65%
3	Philippine Normal University	170,796	162,310	(8,486)	-4.97%
4	Technological University of the Philippines	86,961	82,721	(4,240)	-4.88%
Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR)					
5	Abra State Institute of Science and Technology	37,152	23,600	(13,552)	- 36.48%
6	Apayao State College	43,188	29,090	(14,098)	- 32.64%
7	Benguet State University	98,381	92,082	(6,299)	-6.40%
Region I - Ilocos					
8	Don Mariano Marcos Memorial State University	89,859	77,393	(12,466)	- 13.87%
9	Ilocos Sur Polytechnic State College	22,772	15,937	(6,835)	- 30.01%
10	Mariano Marcos State University	136,112	115,226	(20,886)	- 15.34%
11	University of Northern Philippines	71,733	55,231	(16,502)	- 23.00%
Region II - Cagayan Valley					
12	Batanes State College	11,931	7,931	(4,000)	- 33.53%
13	Cagayan State University	115,761	81,173	(34,588)	- 29.88%
14	Isabela State University	102,685	87,392	(15,293)	- 14.89%

Region III - Central Luzon					
15	Aurora State College of Technology	21,972	21,657	(315)	-1.43%
16	Bataan Peninsula State University	72,653	52,459	(20,194)	-27.80%
17	Bulacan State University	123,584	103,614	(19,970)	-16.16%
18	Central Luzon State University	168,873	148,847	(20,026)	-11.86%
19	Don Honorio Ventura Technological State University	57,307	47,923	(9,384)	-16.37%
20	Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology	56,715	52,777	(3,938)	-6.94%
Region IV-A - CALABARZON					
21	Batangas State University	119,866	115,410	(4,456)	-3.72%
22	Cavite State University	78,934	68,783	(10,151)	-12.86%
23	Laguna State Polytechnic University	66,102	53,335	(12,767)	-19.31%
24	Southern Luzon State University	63,719	51,746	(11,973)	-18.79%
25	University of Rizal System	55,537	47,152	(8,385)	-15.10%
Region IV-B - MIMAROPA					
26	Marinduque State College	30,361	18,979	(11,382)	-37.49%
27	Occidental Mindoro State College	38,378	32,158	(6,220)	-16.21%
28	Palawan State University	65,378	53,278	(12,100)	-18.51%
29	Romblon State University	27,357	22,351	(5,006)	-18.30%
30	Western Philippines University	33,532	22,670	(10,862)	-32.39%
Region V - Bicol					
31	Bicol State College of Applied Sciences and Technology	23,320	23,257	(63)	-0.27%
32	Camarines Norte State College	52,026	48,420	(3,606)	-6.93%
33	Central Bicol State University of Agriculture	113,032	97,786	(15,246)	-13.49%

34	Dr. Emilio B. Espinosa, Sr. Memorial State College of Agriculture and Technology	27,198	23,987	(3,211)	- 11.81%
35	Partido State University	65,210	62,246	(2,964)	-4.55%
Region VI - Western Visayas					
36	Central Philippines State University	29,950	28,801	(1,149)	-3.84%
37	Northern Negros State College of Science and Technology	21,410	20,215	(1,195)	-5.58%
38	University of Antique	55,621	34,232	(21,389)	- 38.45%
39	West Visayas State University	188,014	178,774	(9,240)	-4.91%
Region VII - Central Visayas					
40	Bohol Island State University	39,297	33,315	(5,982)	- 15.22%
41	Cebu Normal University	83,741	49,129	(34,612)	- 41.33%
42	Negros Oriental State University	60,120	56,463	(3,657)	-6.08%
Region VIII - Eastern Visayas					
43	Eastern Visayas State University	45,357	33,843	(11,514)	- 25.39%
44	Leyte Normal University	43,273	42,125	(1,148)	-2.65%
45	Naval State University	26,226	17,791	(8,435)	- 32.16%
46	Northwest Samar State University	21,398	17,296	(4,102)	- 19.17%
47	Samar State University	38,929	34,224	(4,705)	- 12.09%
48	University of Eastern Philippines	71,195	57,562	(13,633)	- 19.15%
49	Visayas State University	153,646	145,226	(8,420)	-5.48%
Region IX - Zamboanga Peninsula					
50	J.H. Cerilles State College	36,702	25,374	(11,328)	- 30.86%
51	Jose Rizal Memorial State College	63,967	34,868	(29,099)	- 45.49%
52	Zamboanga State College of Marine Sciences and Technology	25,015	18,280	(6,735)	- 26.92%

Region X – Northern Mindanao					
53	Central Mindanao University	114,078	98,496	(15,582)	-13.66%
54	MSU - Iligan Institute of Technology	244,054	242,935	(1,119)	-0.46%
55	University of Science and Technology of Southern Philippines - Cagayan de Oro Campus	63,097	61,312	(1,785)	-2.83%
56	Northwestern Mindanao State College of Science and Technology	12,788	12,639	(149)	-1.17%
Region XI - Davao Region					
57	Davao del Norte State College	11,974	11,232	(742)	-6.20%
58	University of Southeastern Philippines	103,468	91,808	(11,660)	-11.27%
Region XII - SOCCSKSARGEN					
59	Cotabato State University	13,732	13,445	(287)	-2.09%
60	University of Southern Mindanao	61,645	51,557	(10,088)	-16.36%
Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao					
61	MSU - Tawi-Tawi College of Technology and Oceanography	60,625	59,876	(749)	-1.24%
62	Sulu State College	14,927	14,801	(126)	-0.84%
63	Tawi-Tawi Regional Agricultural College	10,793	10,775	(18)	-0.17%

WHEREAS, when totaled, the cuts in the MOOE of 50 state schools amount to P583.7 million. Some of the heftiest MOOE cuts include Jose Rizal Memorial State College (45.49% decrease), from the current P63.98 million down to P34.87 million; Cebu Normal University (41.33% decrease), from P83.74 million down to P49.13 million; University of Antique (38.45% decrease), from P55.62 million down to P34.23 million; Marinduque State College (37.49% decrease), from P30.36 million down to P18.98 million; and Abra State Institute of Science and Technology (36.48% decrease), from P37.15 million down to P23.6 million;

Furthermore, Central Luzon and Eastern Visayas are the regions most affected by the MOOE cuts, with six and seven schools, respectively, in the region affected. At close second are CALABARZON, MIMAROPA, and Bicol, with five state schools each set to incur MOOE cuts;

WHEREAS, massive 92 out of 114 SUCs will also sustain big cuts in their budget for capital outlay; 35 of it have 100% decrease—ZERO budget for infrastructures.

3. SUCs with CO cuts

School		BUDGET CUT (in '000)			
		2017	2018	Decrease	% cut
NCR					
1	Eulogio "Amang" Rodriuez Institute of Science and Technology	40,092	-	(40,092)	- 100.00%
2	Marikina Polytechnic College	76,612	-	(76,612)	- 100.00%
3	Philippine Normal Unviersity	131,555	-	(131,555)	- 100.00%
4	Philippine State College of Aeronautics	10,000	-	(10,000)	- 100.00%
5	Polytechnic University of the Philippines	59,128	-	(59,128)	- 100.00%
6	Rizal Technological University	47,562	-	(47,562)	- 100.00%
7	Technological University of the Philippines	41,227	-	(41,227)	- 100.00%
8	University of the Philippines System	2,877,971	365,000	(2,512,971)	-87.32%
9	Eulogio "Amang" Rodriuez Institute of Science and Technology	40,092	-	(40,092)	- 100.00%
Cordillera Administrative Region (CAR)					
10	Abra State Institute of Science and Technology	23,513	18,000	(5,513)	-23.45%
11	Apayao State College	56,130	-	(56,130)	- 100.00%
12	Benguet State University	79,763	10,000	(69,763)	-87.46%
13	Ifugao State University	144,555	54,200	(90,355)	-62.51%
14	Mountain Province State Polytechnic College (MPSU)	87,031	33,159	(53,872)	-61.90%
Region I - Ilocos					

15	Ilocos Sur Polytechnic State College	56,537	40,000	(16,537)	-29.25%
16	North Luzon Philippines State College	82,612	14,790	(67,822)	-82.10%
17	Pangasinan State University	164,093	49,500	(114,593)	-69.83%
18	University of Northern Philippines	219,093	139,936	(79,157)	-36.13%
Region II - Cagayan Valley					
19	Batanes State College	75,500	14,600	(60,900)	-80.66%
20	Isabela State University	169,093	90,500	(78,593)	-46.48%
21	Quirino State University	154,094	10,100	(143,994)	-93.45%
Region III - Central Luzon					
22	Aurora State College of Technology	104,000	48,200	(55,800)	-53.65%
23	Bulacan Agricultural State College	96,612	67,000	(29,612)	-30.65%
24	Bulacan State University	211,555	8,000	(203,555)	-96.22%
25	Central Luzon State University	159,093	90,000	(69,093)	-43.43%
26	Nueva Ecija University of Science and Technology	56,441	18,100	(38,341)	-67.93%
27	Pampanga State Agricultural University	166,555	101,100	(65,455)	-39.30%
28	Philippine Merchant Marine Academy	69,145	64,500	(4,645)	-6.72%
29	Tarlac Agricultural University	131,555	64,500	(67,055)	-50.97%
30	Tarlac State University	131,555	84,500	(47,055)	-35.77%
Region IV-A - CALABARZON					
31	Batangas State University	131,555	-	(131,555)	-100.00%
32	Cavite State University	90,299	50,000	(40,299)	-44.63%
33	Laguna State Polytechnic University	104,094	64,100	(39,994)	-38.42%
34	Southern Luzon State University	34,624	-	(34,624)	-100.00%
35	University of Rizal System	40,000	-	(40,000)	-100.00%
Region IV-B - MIMAROPA					

36	Marinduque State College	66,123	20,000	(46,123)	-69.75%
37	Occidental Mindoro State College	54,112	27,924	(26,188)	-48.40%
38	Palawan State University	53,154	50,000	(3,154)	-5.93%
39	Romblon State University	114,094	43,702	(70,392)	-61.70%
40	Western Philippines University	131,555	1,262	(130,293)	-99.04%
Region V - Bicol					
41	Bicol University	159,093	105,000	(54,093)	-34.00%
42	Camarines Sur Polytechnic Colleges	104,094	62,588	(41,506)	-39.87%
43	Central Bicol State University of Agriculture	148,555	42,000	(106,555)	-71.73%
Region VI - Western Visayas					
44	Aklan State University	104,094	57,000	(47,094)	-45.24%
45	Capiz State University	35,948	23,530	(12,418)	-34.54%
46	Central Philippines State University	76,612	25,000	(51,612)	-67.37%
47	Iloilo Science and Technology University	131,555	70,000	(61,555)	-46.79%
48	Northern Iloilo State University/ NIPSC	104,094	49,000	(55,094)	-52.93%
49	Northern Negros State College of Science and Technology	104,094	70,000	(34,094)	-32.75%
50	University of Antique	141,555	112,150	(29,405)	-20.77%
51	West Visayas State University	199,093	104,595	(94,498)	-47.46%
Region VII - Central Visayas					
52	Bohol Island State University	57,428	-	(57,428)	100.00%
53	Cebu Normal University	25,185	4,000	(21,185)	-84.12%
54	Cebu Technological University	182,593	95,000	(87,593)	-47.97%
55	Negros Oriental State University	50,576	35,000	(15,576)	-30.80%

56	Siquijor State College	52,160	-	(52,160)	-	100.00%
Region VIII - Eastern Visayas						
57	Eastern Samar State University	139,555	26,713	(112,842)	-	-80.86%
58	Eastern Visayas State University	49,105	-	(49,105)	-	100.00%
59	Leyte Normal University	220,546	-	(220,546)	-	100.00%
60	Naval State University	92,534	-	(92,534)	-	100.00%
61	Northwest Samar State University	155,555	-	(155,555)	-	100.00%
62	Palompon Polytechnic State University	116,699	-	(116,699)	-	100.00%
63	Samar State University	131,555	-	(131,555)	-	100.00%
64	Southern Leyte State University	56,257	-	(56,257)	-	100.00%
65	University of Eastern Philippines	131,555	-	(131,555)	-	100.00%
66	Visayas State University	279,875	45,117	(234,758)	-	-83.88%
Region IX - Zamboanga Peninsula						
67	J.H. Cerilles State College	20,887	11,000	(9,887)	-	-47.34%
68	Jose Rizal Memorial State College	51,992	38,585	(13,407)	-	-25.79%
69	Western Mindanao State University	179,555	-	(179,555)	-	100.00%
70	Zamboanga City State Polytechnic College	139,094	-	(139,094)	-	100.00%
71	Zamboanga State College of Marine Sciences and Technology	57,220	-	(57,220)	-	100.00%
Region X - Northern Mindanao						
72	Bukidnon State University	131,555	125,000	(6,555)	-	-4.98%
73	Camiguin Polytechnic State College	16,640	-	(16,640)	-	100.00%
74	Central Mindanao University	164,093	98,965	(65,128)	-	-39.69%

75	MSU - Iligan Institute of Technology	55,475	-	(55,475)	- 100.00%
76	University of Science and Technology of Southern Philippines - Cagayan de Oro Campus	179,093	-	(179,093)	- 100.00%
77	University of Science and Technology of Southern Philippines - Claveria Campus	104,094	-	(104,094)	- 100.00%
78	Northwestern Mindanao State College of Science and Technology	81,112	15,000	(66,112)	-81.51%
Region XI - Davao Region					
79	Compostela Valley State College	106,612	51,500	(55,112)	-51.69%
80	Davao Oriental State College of Science and Technology	141,555	82,500	(59,055)	-41.72%
81	Southern Philippines Agri-Business and Marine and Aquatic School of Technology	50,915	49,100	(1,815)	-3.56%
82	University of Southeastern Philippines	282,093	240,000	(42,093)	-14.92%
Regionx XII - SOCCSKSARGEN					
83	Cotabato State University	10,600	-	(10,600)	- 100.00%
84	Cotabato Foundation College of Science and Technology	79,612	-	(79,612)	- 100.00%
85	Sultan Kudarat State University	136,555	9,100	(127,455)	-93.34%
86	University of Southern Mindanao	174,093	3,000	(171,093)	-98.28%
Region XIII - Caraga Administrative Region					
87	Agusan del Sur State College of Agriculture and Technology	124,094	69,322	(54,772)	-44.14%
Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao					
88	Adiong Memorial Polytechnic State College	72,648	7,638	(65,010)	-89.49%
89	Basilan State College	76,612	-	(76,612)	- 100.00%
90	Mindanao State University	135,910	-	(135,910)	- 100.00%

91	MSU - Tawi-Tawi College of Technology and Oceanography	71,187	-	(71,187)	- 100.00%
92	Sulu State College	16,000	-	(16,000)	- 100.00%
93	Tawi-Tawi Regional Agricultural College	76,612	-	(76,612)	- 100.00%

WHEREAS, 92 state schools will meanwhile incur CO cuts totaling P8.96 billion (P8,958,079.00), a disturbing 55.15% decrease compared to 2018 budget appropriation. The largest decrease will be suffered by 35 SUCs, which are set to incur 100% budget cut--a total of P2.93 billion (P2,929,583,000.00) for their CO;

WHEREAS, none from the 114 SUCs will receive PS cuts for 2019, as compared to 2018 where it amounted to billions. 2019 PS net budget increased by 18.09%, equivalent to P6.9 billion increase (P6,903,055,000.00) distributed among all 114 SUCs.

WHEREAS, data from the Department of Budget and Management reveals that the annual subsidy to our state schools – despite its gradual increase over the years and little decrease by 2019– fall short by an average of P19 billion.

Based on DBM's Budget Expenditures and Sources of Financing (BESF), while the total expenditure of 114 SUCs in the country amounts to an average of P81 billion annually, the government provision for SUCs falls short by P19 billion, amounting to an average of only P61.73 billion since 2016. The following data culled from the BESF depicts the said shortage:

TOTAL EXPENDITURES OF SUCs 2015-2018 (IN '000 PHP)			
Year	Expenditure from government subsidy	Expenditure from internal income	Total Expenditures
2016	53,088,662	13,572,763	66,661,425
2017	63,380,026	16,444,017	79,824,043
2018 (Estimates)	65,244,684	22,674,982	87,919,666
2019 (Estimates)	65,198,731	24,092,963	89,291,694
Average	61,728,026	19,196,181	80,924,207

WHEREAS, in the past years, we have witnessed the gradual dilution of the public character of our state schools. Education has been reduced to being a lucrative business milking the youth and our parents dry for profit.

SUCs are actually utilizing various income-generating mechanisms including charging tuition and other fees and utilizing assets. Since 2010, we have seen a steady increase in tuition rates and a sharp increase in the collection of other school fees (OSFs). These collections are no less than profiteering measures driven by massive deregulation, privatization, and denationalization of education.

Since 2016, the annual internal income of all SUCs amount to an average of P48 billion, around 25% or P12 billion of which comes from fees paid by students. Next year, the DBM projects that SUCs will earn a total of P30.08 billion from internal income;

WHEREAS, despite the passage of the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Law, the Department of Budget and Management expects the country's 114 SUCs to earn a total of P54.18 billion in combined internal income, including fees collected from students. Of the P54.18 billion, P12.93 billion will be sourced from tuition collection while P6.08 billion will be from other income collected from students.

What is worrisome is that our state schools might introduce new and higher fees to students who are not covered by the free tuition grant in the coming year just to meet the internal income. These figures show us that the policy of charging higher fees to students remains largely intact. In the end, students stand to lose much if the government continues in this pathway towards increasing unaffordability and inaccessibility of even our state schools.

Thus, it is apparent that the 1.6 million SUC students are the real victims in the continued underfunding of the government for our SUCs. Due to insufficient funds, states schools intensify the collection of tuition and other fees;

WHEREAS, with the passage of the Universal Access to Tertiary Education Law, it is but just and reasonable for the House Committee on Appropriations to consider restoring the P583.7 million slashed in the MOOE of 63 SUCs and the P2.93 billion cut in the CO of 92 SUCs (a total of P3.51 billion—P3,513,288,000.00). This representation is urging the Committee on Appropriations, headed by the Hon. Karlo Nograles, to study options on where to source funds that will be used to augment the budget of these schools;

WHEREAS, higher education is an instrument of empowerment and thus contributory for national development. Higher education serves a public and social purpose. Contrary to current market-driven economic policies, higher education is a public good and should not be left vulnerable to free market forces and commercial interests. Underfunding public higher education is tantamount to undermining the future of the nation;

WHEREAS, the government's current budget framework for state schools is contradictory to its intention of developing public education. For years, our students and constituents have called for greater state funding for education. Yet, a decrease—albeit minimal—such as we see in the 2019 budget still took place. What our state schools need is a substantial increase – an additional budget that could match their actual funding requirement. Greater state funding is needed for our schools to regain their public character, and provide ample support for student services and faculty development;

WHEREAS, we need a kind of education that will capacitate the youth as agents of social change. It is, therefore, imperative for us to collectively advance our demands to strengthen public education. Without education, the nation's chance for national progress and development is left to chance;

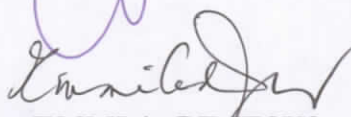
WHEREAS, what is needed is a complete overhaul of the current ~~system~~ of education – repeal all existing deregulation and commercialization policies in education, and establish a nationalist, scientific, and mass-oriented system of education;


NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the House Committee on Appropriations restore the P584 million budget slashed by the Department of Budget and Management from the maintenance and other operating expenses (MOOE) of 63 SUCs, and substantially augment budget allocation for capital outlay (CO) and the public tertiary education system.

Adopted,


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Kabataan Party-list


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Bayan Muna Party-list


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