SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES Third Regular Session

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SENATE P. S. RES No. 784

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RECE : V ...

Introduced by Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino IV

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE IMPLEMENTATION OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10912, OR THE CONTINUING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2016

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10912, or the "Continuing Professional Development Act of 2016," was enacted into law on July 21, 2016, as adherence to the policy of the State in promoting and upgrading the practice of professions in the country;

WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10912 sought to faciliate the continuous enhancement of the competence of professionals in accordance with the international standards of practice, ensuring their contribution in uplifting the general welfare, economic growth and development of the nation;

WHEREAS, the said law mandates all professionals to undergo learning activities, from structured to non-structured undertakings, through Continuing Professional Development (CPD) Programs. Such activities shall be required to renew their Professional Identification Card;

WHEREAS, continuing education is key to creating more opportunities for growth and development for professionals, thereby enriching not only the individual but also his or her chosen field;

WHEREAS, despite the good intentions of the CPD law, it was reported that many concerns were raised by the stakeholders, including engineers, architects, doctors, teachers and nurses, regarding its implementation;

WHEREAS, in July 2017, it was reported that 43,000 professionals signed an online petition to the Professional Regulation Commission (PRC) seeking to revisit the requirements for renewing their licenses under the said law, which they considered costly and time consuming. Moreover, some professionals viewed the CPD seminars as counterproductive since paid CPD seminars rarely catered to their specialization;

WHEREAS, the issue of affordability and accessibility of CPD Programs, specifically for lower-income earners and migrant workers, was also raised in a Rappler article dated February 9, 2018. Several struggling professionals featured in the article noted that earning CPD units has become an additional burden to their families due to expensive trainings and seminars offered by a limited number of accredited CPD providers;

WHEREAS, there is a need to assess the implementation of the law, its guidelines and procedures, and to identify possible solutions to address the challenges faced by Filipino professionals;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, as it is hereby resolved by the Senate of the Philippines, to direct the appropriate Committee to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the implementation of Republic Act No. 10912, or the 'Continuing Professional Development Act of 2016.'

Adopted,

Ban Quino