

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

**SENATE**  
P.S. Res. No. 980



19 JAN 8 P1:38

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

RECEIVED

**RESOLUTION**

**URGING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION, ARTS AND CULTURE TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, INTO THE PERSISTENCE OF BULLYING INCIDENTS OR CASES IN PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS, WITH THE END GOAL OF INTRODUCING NECESSARY AMENDMENTS TO RA 10627, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "ANTI-BULLYING ACT OF 2013", TO STRENGTHEN SAID LAW**

1           **WHEREAS**, Section 11, Article 2 of the Constitution states that "the State  
2 values the dignity of every human person and guarantees full respect for human  
3 rights";  
4

5           **WHEREAS**, Section 13, Article 2 of the Constitution declares that "the State  
6 recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and  
7 protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being";  
8

9           **WHEREAS**, bullying breeds hatred and violence on the part of the  
10 perpetrator and it mentally, emotionally and psychologically scars the victim, thereby  
11 negatively affecting his or her education and even his or her life outside school;  
12

13           **WHEREAS**, Republic Act (RA) No. 10627, or the "Anti-Bullying Act of 2013",  
14 was approved on 12 September 2013;  
15

16           **WHEREAS**, RA 10627 was enacted to address various forms of bullying in  
17 educational institutions, particularly in primary and secondary education;  
18

19           **WHEREAS**, though there are numerous forms of bullying, there are five (5)  
20 "basic forms of bullying", namely: physical, verbal, relational aggression, cyber-  
21 bullying and sexual bullying;  
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23           **WHEREAS**, in 2014, ironically, cases of bullying in elementary and high  
24 schools reportedly rose by 21%, or a total of 6,363 cases, compared to 2013's 5,236  
25 cases of bullying, according to a consolidated report of the Department of Education  
26 (DepEd);  
27

1           **WHEREAS**, despite the passage of RA 10627, cases of bullying had  
2 apparently increased;

3  
4           **WHEREAS**, just recently, a video of a high school student bullying a fellow  
5 student went viral in social media, which angered Filipinos from different sectors and  
6 age groups;

7  
8           **WHEREAS**, one of the most frequently-mentioned criticism against RA 10627  
9 is the relative autonomy and "leeway" accorded to educational institutions in  
10 "internally" resolving cases and/or complaints of bullying;

11  
12           **WHEREAS**, it is high time to re-visit RA 10627 and to hear the stakeholders  
13 involved as well as the experts on the matter in order to strengthen said law by  
14 possibly including a meaningful "check" on the apparent autonomy and discretion of  
15 educational institutions; a provision to ensure the impartiality and efficiency of the  
16 body or committee to investigate and decide on a bullying case; and the mandatory  
17 leave of absence of the alleged bully, among others;

18  
19           **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, as it is hereby resolved by the  
20 Senate of the Philippines, to urge the Senate Committee on Education, Arts and  
21 Culture to conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, into the persistence of bullying  
22 incidents or cases in primary and secondary schools, with the end goal of  
23 introducing necessary amendments to RA 10627, otherwise known as the "Anti-  
24 Bullying Act of 2013", to strengthen said law;

25  
26           *Adopted.*

  
**GRACE POE**