

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*First Regular Session* )



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**SENATE**

**P.S. Res. No. 155**

RECEIVED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

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Introduced by Senator SONNY ANGARA

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**RESOLUTION**

**DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON YOUTH TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATE OF YOUTH UNEMPLOYMENT AND UNDEREMPLOYMENT WITH THE END IN VIEW OF STRENGTHENING EXISTING GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS AIMED AT ASSISTING YOUTH EMPLOYMENT AND INSTITUTIONALIZING ADDITIONAL REFORMS**

1           WHEREAS, a 2022 study by the International Labour Organization (ILO) entitled  
2 "Global Employment Trends for the Youth 2022: Investing in transforming futures for  
3 young people" illustrated the enormous impact of COVID-19 on the youth employment  
4 noting that "between 2019 and 2020, those aged between 15 and 24 years  
5 experienced a much higher percentage loss in employment than adults (defined as  
6 those aged 25 years and above)";

7           WHEREAS, the report explained that – due to the various mobility restrictions  
8 set by governments around the world in order to curb the spread of the virus which  
9 then resulted in significant losses from businesses and employers – the youth  
10 experienced a considerable challenge in entering the labor force. In fact, the ILO  
11 estimates that there are 73 million youths who are unemployed this year – lower than  
12 the 75 million in 2021 but higher than the 2019 numbers by around 6 million;

13           WHEREAS, this is supported by an article published by the World Economic  
14 Forum (WEF) which states that, in 2020, youth employment declined by 8.7% as  
15 compared to the adult employment which dipped at 3.7%;

16           WHEREAS, the Filipino youth has not been spared from the employment-related  
17 hardships brought about by the recent pandemic and the measures the government  
18 was forced to make to address the deadly disease as World Bank data shows that the

1 youth unemployment has risen – from 6.7 in 2018, 6.8 in 2019, 7.1 in 2020, and 7.3  
2 in 2021;

3 WHEREAS, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) – citing second quarter 2020  
4 data – also noted that 23% of the jobs lost during that period were occupied by the  
5 youth despite representing only 15% of total employment on average which greatly  
6 affected not only their ability to provide a decent life for their families and loved ones  
7 but also their opportunities for professional and self-growth;

8 WHEREAS, even before the emergence of COVID-19, the Philippine  
9 government has been institutionalizing programs aimed at strengthening the ability of  
10 the Filipino youth in finding jobs. For instance, in 2016, Republic Act No. 10917 or the  
11 law expanding the Special Program of the Employment of Students (SPES) was  
12 enacted to provide temporary employment for underprivileged but deserving students,  
13 out-of-school youth, and those dependents of displaced workers;

14 WHEREAS, another measure which was also enacted in the same year is  
15 Republic Act No. 10869 which institutionalized the JobStart Philippines Program -  
16 providing technical and life skills training, paid internship and employment facilitation  
17 services including referral to employers in order to ensure that beneficiaries of the  
18 program have increased chances of employability;

19 WHEREAS, the youth were also able to avail of the Department of Labor and  
20 Employment's (DOLE) Government Internship Program (GIP) which offers paid  
21 internship to high school, college, or technical-vocational graduates who may be  
22 interested in a career in government and the First Time Jobseekers Program (under  
23 Republic Act No. 11261) which waives fees and charges on governmental transactions  
24 needed to secure employment. In addition, in 2021, it was reported that the  
25 Philippines was able to secure a Php 20 billion loan from ADB to fund its Facilitating  
26 Youth School-to-Work Transition Program as well as the Tulong Trabaho Scholarship  
27 Fund of TESDA;

28 WHEREAS, while these government interventions have shown promising results  
29 since their implementation, the impact brought about by events in recent years may  
30 have undermined the progress our country made in reducing youth unemployment.  
31 Hence, there is a need to not only evaluate the impact of government programs for  
32 young jobseekers to see whether the existing laws and programs are still effective and

1 up-to-date with the current demands of the sector but also to identify gaps between  
2 education and employment to institutionalize necessary changes;

3 WHEREAS, there is also a need for cohesion between industries in determining  
4 the available and emerging career paths and how the country can ensure a steady  
5 supply of competent Filipino workers;

6 NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the  
7 Senate of the Philippines to direct the Senate Committee on Youth to conduct an  
8 inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the state of youth unemployment and  
9 underemployment with the end in view of strengthening existing government  
10 programs aimed at assisting youth employment and institutionalizing additional  
11 reforms.

*Adopted,*



**SONNY ANGARA**