

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



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**SENATE**  
**P. S. Res No. 257**

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

Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

**RESOLUTION**  
**DIRECTING THE PROPER SENATE COMMITTEES, TO CONDUCT AN**  
**INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON FAR EASTERN UNIVERSITY**  
**PUBLIC POLICY CENTER'S FINDINGS THAT ELEMENTARY TEXTBOOKS**  
**CONTAIN FACTUAL INACCURACIES**

1           WHEREAS, the Constitution requires that all educational institutions include  
2 the study of the Constitution as part of the curricula, and shall inculcate patriotism  
3 and nationalism, foster love of humanity, respect for human rights, appreciation of  
4 the role of national heroes in the historical development of the country, teach the  
5 rights and duties of citizenship, strengthen ethical and spiritual values, develop  
6 moral character and personal discipline<sup>1</sup>;

7  
8           WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 10533 or the Enhanced Basic Education Act of  
9 2013 provides the standards and principles that the Department of Education shall  
10 adhere to in developing the enhanced basic education curriculum<sup>2</sup>;

11  
12           WHEREAS, Republic Act No. 8047 or the Book Publishing Industry  
13 Development Act mandated the formulation of a national book policy and a national  
14 book development plan. The said law recognized that books are the most effective  
15 and economical tools for achieving educational growth, for imparting information  
16 and for recording, preserving, and disseminating the nation's cultural heritage<sup>3</sup>;

17  
18           WHEREAS, the Far Eastern University Public Policy Center (FPPC), a private  
19 research foundation that conducts in-depth research and public discussion that  
20 aims to make substantive contribution to evidence-based policymaking,  
21 conducted a review of fourteen (14) Araling Panlipunan textbooks of Grade 5 and  
22 6 which were published from 2016 to 2019 and are used in selected private and

<sup>1</sup> Section 3 (1) & (2), Article XIV of the 1987 Philippine Constitution.

<sup>2</sup> Section 5 of RA 10533.

<sup>3</sup> Section 2 of RA 8047.

23 in all public elementary schools. The overall aim of the review is to improve the  
24 teaching and learning of social studies<sup>4</sup>;

25

26 WHEREAS, the FPPC review found that: (1) the textbooks' grand narrative  
27 of Philippine history is dominantly political in content, (2) the textbooks contain  
28 examples of factual inaccuracies, including unproven statements that are  
29 presented as facts. It appears that the textbooks did not undergo a rigorous  
30 review process, (3) civic prescriptions in the textbooks also tend to appeal to  
31 emotion or public sentiment than to civic knowledge (such as how government  
32 works or ought to work, voter registration, basic tenets of the constitution), and  
33 (4) the treatment of martial law ranges from only 7% to 11% of the total number  
34 of pages in the Grade 6 textbook. Given the overall textbook narrative of the  
35 Filipino struggle for freedom and nationhood, martial law occupies a relatively  
36 limited space;

37

38 WHEREAS, the FPPC recommends the following: (1) correcting historical  
39 inaccuracies, (2) discussing neglected and silenced topics, (3) providing more data  
40 to support the authors' interpretations, and (4) devoting more space in the  
41 textbooks for the discussion of Martial Law;

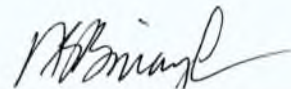
42

43 WHEREAS, considering that Philippine textbooks are of immense importance  
44 as they are the primary, in most instances, the sole, learning resource, it is  
45 imperative that historical inaccuracies be corrected, facts presented are precise and  
46 authors' interpretations are founded on evidence;

47

48 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AS IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, that the  
49 proper Senate committees conduct an inquiry, in aid of legislation, on Far Eastern  
50 University Public Policy Center's findings that elementary textbooks contain factual  
51 inaccuracies.

Adopted,



**MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY**

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<sup>4</sup> Diokno, Maria Serena I. et. al., The Dilemma of Philippine History Textbooks. A review of Select Grades 5 and 6 Araling Panlipunan Textbooks, <https://publicpolicy.feu.org.ph/the-dilemma-of-philippine-history-textbooks-a-review-of-select-grades-5-and-6-araling-panlipunan-textbooks/>.