



Senate

Office of the Secretary

**NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
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SENATE

RECEIVED BY:

P.S. Res. No. 455

Introduced by SENATOR WIN GATCHALIAN

RESOLUTION

DIRECTING THE SENATE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION TO CONDUCT AN INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, ON THE STATUS OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE EDUCATION PROVISIONS OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 11054 OR THE ORGANIC LAW FOR THE BANGSAMORO AUTONOMOUS REGION IN MUSLIM MINDANAO (BARMM) AND THE BANGSAMORO EDUCATION CODE OF 2021, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDRESSING THE LOW BASIC EDUCATION NET ENROLLMENT RATE AND POOR LEARNER OUTCOMES, AND IMPROVING ACCESS TO QUALITY BASIC EDUCATION IN BARMM

1 **WHEREAS**, following the decades-long struggle of the Bangsamoro for their
2 right to self-determination, Republic Act (R.A.) No. 11054 or the Organic Law for the
3 Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) was ratified and
4 enacted on July 27, 2018. It established the BARMM, which is designed to have
5 greater autonomy, more resources, and larger territory than its predecessor;¹
6

7 **WHEREAS**, R.A. No. 11054 contains provisions which mandates the
8 Bangsamoro Government to make education its top priority, fully address the
9 education and development of children, and create policies and programs that shall
10 take into utmost consideration the best interest of children, and promote and protect

¹ Official Gazette. Republic Act No. 11054 (See <https://www.officialgazette.gov.ph/2018/07/27/republic-act-no-11054/>)

1 their rights;²

2
3 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to Article IX, Section 16 of R.A. No. 11054, the
4 Bangsamoro Government shall develop an educational framework relevant and
5 responsive to the needs, ideals, and aspirations of the Bangsamoro people, subject
6 to the minimum standards set by the National Government and without prejudice to
7 the general supervision of the President of the Philippines;

8
9 **WHEREAS**, several decades of armed conflict and civil unrest have greatly
10 affected the provision of accessible and quality basic education as evident in the
11 performance of BARMM in several education indicators;

12
13 **WHEREAS**, historical Net Enrollment Rate (NER) shows that low school
14 participation has been a persistent problem in BARMM, the problem being more
15 pronounced in Junior High School (JHS) and Senior High School (SHS). On average,
16 only about 36% of individuals aged 12 to 15 are enrolled in JHS, and only 10% of
17 individuals aged 16 to 17 are enrolled in SHS. These numbers are substantially lower
18 than the national NER of 97%;³

19
20 **WHEREAS**, data from the 2020 Philippine Statistics Authority's Annual
21 Poverty Indicators Survey reveal further insights as to why the NER in the region is
22 low. Some of the top cited reasons for not attending school are: the high cost of
23 education or financial cost (21%); accessibility of schools (17%); and lack of personal
24 interest (16%);⁴

25
26 **WHEREAS**, the latest Cohort Survival data for BARMM shows that out of every
27 100 children who enrolled in Grade 1 in School Year (SY) 2010-2011, only 17 were
28 able to graduate Grade 12 in SY 2021-2022. Cohort survival in the region is
29 substantially lower compared to the national average with 57 Grade 12 graduates in
30 SY 2021-2022 out of every 100 Grade 1 enrollees in SY 2010-2011;⁵

² *Ibid.*

³ Department of Education: Education Management Information System Division

⁴ Philippine Statistics Authority: Social Sector Statistics Service

⁵ *Supra* Note 3.

1 **WHEREAS**, in terms of learner outcomes, the results of the last seven National
2 Achievement Tests administered in the region reveal low performance in English,
3 Science, and Mathematics. Grade 6 learners only exhibit near proficiency in English
4 (52.4%) and Mathematics (52%). In Science, the learners exhibited low proficiency
5 (46%);⁶

6
7 **WHEREAS**, the current administration of the Bangsamoro Government,
8 headed by the leadership of the Ministry of Basic, Higher and Technical Education
9 (MBHTE)-BARMM, has been actively breaking grounds to reverse the situation and
10 lay down the solid stakes to deliver accessible and quality education with its advocacy
11 of not leaving a Bangsamoro child behind;

12
13 **WHEREAS**, complementary to the efforts of providing quality education for all
14 Filipino children in BARMM, the MBHTE-BARMM launched on July 13, 2020 its
15 flagship programs for the school year 2020-2021. The programs under MBHTE’s 12-
16 point priority agenda are designed to enhance the BARMM educational system under
17 basic education, *Madaris* education and Islamic studies, among others;⁷

18
19 **WHEREAS**, pursuant to the mandate of R.A. 11054 to enact a legislation to
20 develop and strengthen the *Madaris* educational system, the Bangsamoro Education
21 Code (BEC) of 2021 was signed into law on May 18, 2021;⁸

22
23 **WHEREAS**, Education Minister Mohagher M. Iqbal, who filed the bill in
24 October 2020, said the legislation is “an embodiment of our aspiration for the
25 Bangsamoro children to have a bright future which is an upshot of a quality
26 education.”⁹ Under Section 8 of the BEC of 2021, the Bangsamoro Government shall
27 establish and maintain a system of mobilizing resources and financing to enable
28 educational institutions to achieve the Bangsamoro education standards and enable

⁶ Department of Education: Bureau of Education Assessment

⁷ Philippine News Agency. BARMM launches educational flagship programs. (2020, July 13).
(See <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1108784>)

⁸ MBHTE-BARMM: About the Education Code (See <https://min-edu.bangsamoro.gov.ph/about-the-code/>)

⁹ Bangsamoro Government: BARMM education code signed into law. (2021, May 19). (See <https://bangsamoro.gov.ph/news/latest-news/barmm-education-code-signed-into-law/>)

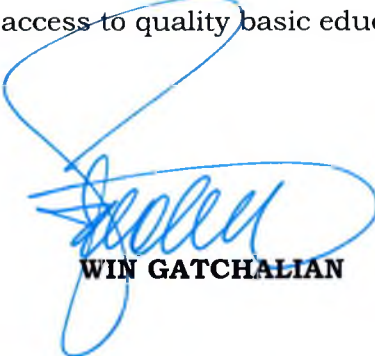
1 learners to have access to quality education;

2
3 **WHEREAS**, on August 2, 2022, Education Minister Iqbal signed the
4 Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of the BEC of 2021. The IRR aims to
5 supplement the provisions of the BEC of 2021, and provide concrete mechanisms for
6 the effective implementation of “No Bangsamoro child shall be left behind;”¹⁰
7

8 **WHEREAS**, despite the efforts in improving access to quality basic education
9 in BARMM, the learners’ enrollee turnout still continues to decline over the years. In
10 one of the public hearings of the Senate Committee on Basic Education, the
11 Chairperson of the Committee urged the Department of Education and BARMM to
12 implement strategies and address this decline in enrollment, as this “will create
13 intergenerational problems or intergenerational poverty;”¹¹
14

15 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE**
16 **PHILIPPINES**, to direct the Senate Committee on Basic Education to conduct an
17 inquiry, in aid of legislation, on the status of the implementation of the education
18 provisions of Republic Act No. 11054 or the Organic Law for the Bangsamoro
19 Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) and the Bangsamoro Education
20 Code of 2021, for the purpose addressing the low basic education Net Enrollment
21 Rate and poor learner outcomes, and improving access to quality basic education in
22 BARMM.

Adopted,



WIN GATCHALIAN

¹⁰ Bangsamoro Government: Iqbal signs IRR to enforce Bangsamoro law on education. (2022, August 5). (See <https://bangsamoro.gov.ph/news/latest-news/iqbal-signs-irr-to-enforce-bangsamoro-law-on-education/>)

¹¹ Rappler: More than 2 million ‘dropouts’ as schools adapt to pandemic – Gatchalian. (2020, September 16). (See <https://www.rappler.com/nation/gatchalian-says-millions-dropouts-schools-adapt-pandemic/>)