

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Social Welfare and Development

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29 October 2014

HONORABLE ROMAN T. ROMULO

Chairperson

Committee on Higher and Technical Education

House of Representatives

Constitution Hills, Quezon City

Dear Honorable Congressman Romulo:

This has reference to the request of the Committee on Higher and Technical Education for our Department's official position on **House Resolution No. 720** or the *Resolution Urging the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) to Strengthen the Mechanism for Monitoring the Proper Disbursement of Stipend of the Students Grants-in-Aid Program for Poverty Alleviation (SGP-PA) to Forestall the Growing Incidents of Dropping Out of its Beneficiaries and to Require CHED to Regularly Submit Reports to Congress on the Implementation of the SGP-PA* and **House Resolution No. 847** or the *Resolution Urging the Committee on Higher Education to immediately Conduct a Review and/or Investigation in Aid of Legislation on the Joint Memorandum Circular No. 2014-1 dated February 3, 2014 Providing for Guidelines on the Implementation of Expanded Students' Grants-in-Aid Program for Poverty Alleviation (ESGP-PA) as indicated in the Annex of the said Joint Memorandum Circular.*

Our Department wishes to express its full support for the adoption of these resolutions which will boost the implementation of the Students Grants-in-Aid Program for Poverty Alleviation (SGP-PA). To contribute to the resolutions' enhancement particularly HRN 720, may we also recommend the following:

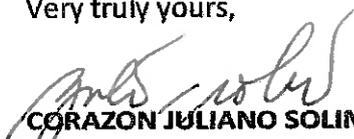
1. On the 3rd Paragraph: To be stated as "WHEAREAS, each of the beneficiaries of the SGP-PA program that is, *poor but deserving students belonging to indigent households under the National Household Targeting System for Poverty Reduction (NHTS-PR) identified by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD)*, is entitled to a maximum scholarship grant of P60,000.00 per school year to cover the cost of tuition and other fees, books, transportation, clothing, board and lodging." This is based on the stipulations under Joint Memorandum Circular 20124-1 of the ESGP-PA.
2. 4th Paragraph, last statement: To be stated as "stronger measures should be implemented to monitor the disbursement of stipend provided under the SGP-PA

program, academic performance of grantees, assistance provided by CHED, DSWD, DOLE and SUCs in response to the needs of the student grantees."

This entails that monitoring should not only be focused on disbursements but on the performance of student grantees, assistance provided by the partner agencies in response to the student grantees' needs before, during and after graduating from college.

Thank you.

Very truly yours,


CORAZON JULIANO SOLIMAN
Secretary