

OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN SECRETARY

# CERTIFICATION

## TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

THIS IS TO CERTIFY that at the regular session duly constituted of the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, Province of Pangasinan, held on June 26, 2023 at the Session Hall, Capitol Building, Lingayen, Pangasinan, the following provincial resolution was approved:

Authored by SP Member Vici M. Ventanilla

#### PROVINCIAL RESOLUTION NO. 568-2023

REQUESTING CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES THROUGH THE HONORABLE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE AND THE SIX (6) CONGRESSMEN OF THE PROVINCE OF PANGASINAN INCLUDING THE ABONO AND ABANTE PANGASINAN ILOKANO PARTYLISTS TO CAUSE THE RETURN OF FUND ALLOCATION FOR THE TERTIARY EDUCATION SUBSIDY (TES) SCHOLARSHIP

**WHEREAS,** Article XIV, Section 1 of the 1987 Constitution provides that "the State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels, and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all";

WHEREAS, Article XIV, Section 1 (3) thereof also provides that "the State shall establish and maintain a system of scholarship grants, student loan programs, subsidies, and other incentives which shall be available to deserving students in both public and private schools, especially to the underprivileged";

WHEREAS, the Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) Scholarship is one of the major components under RA 10931 or the Unified Student Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education Act (UniFAST) which grants scholarship to poor students in public and private institutions;

WHEREAS, the TES Scholarship was thoroughly discussed, among others, during a Question Hour conducted by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan during its June 26, 2023 Regular Session, with the presence of the Regional Head of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and Representatives of the Public and Private Colleges and Universities in the Province and other important personalities, to inquire on the present state of college education assistance programs in the Province of Pangasinan;



# OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN SECRETARY

Provincial Resolution No. 568-2023 Page 2

WHEREAS, the Sangguniang Panlalawigan has learned that TES Scholarship was established to grant financial assistance to support the cost of tertiary education for all students who shall enroll in undergraduate post-secondary programs of State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), Local Universities and Colleges (LUCs), Private Higher Education Institutions (HEIs), and Technical-Vocational Institutions (TVIs);

WHEREAS, the Sangguniang Panlalawigan has been informed that under RA 10931, the national government is mandated to provide necessary funds for the TES Scholarship in the budgets of CHED which shall be included in the General Appropriations Act (GAA) by Congress of the Philippines;

WHEREAS, it has reached the Sangguniang Panlalawigan that implementation of the TES program started in 2018 which benefitted thousands enrollees in Region 1 including the Province of Pangasinan, however, for CYs 2021-2022 and 2022-2023, funds are no longer available for the beneficiaries, particularly for 1<sup>st</sup> year and 2<sup>nd</sup> year enrollees in various private tertiary schools in the Province because it was not included in the GAA, which in effect resulted to students scrambling to secure funds to finance their college education;

WHEREAS, it is the aim of the Provincial Government to further improve the welfare and needed services of the people especially those needy students who are willing to go to school and finish their tertiary education through free education and subsidy from the national government;

WHEREAS, the Sangguniang Panlalawigan deemed it proper and necessary to seek the assistance of the Congress of the Philippines through the Honorable Speaker of the House and the six (6) Congressmen of the Province of Pangasinan to include the Abono and Abante Pangasinan Ilokano Partylists to help the students through an act by Congress to provide and/or return the necessary funds for the TES Scholarship program in the budgets of CHED;

**NOW, THEREFORE,** on motion of SP Member Vici M. Ventanilla, duly seconded, it was –

**RESOLVED,** by the Sangguniang Panlalawigan in session assembled to request, as it is hereby requested, Congress of the Philippines through the Honorable Speaker of the House and the six (6) Congressmen of the Province of Pangasinan including the Abono and Abante Pangasinan Ilokano Partylists to cause the return of fund allocation for the Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) Scholarship;





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## OFFICE OF THE SANGGUNIANG PANLALAWIGAN SECRETARY

Provincial Resolution No. 568-2023 Page 3

**RESOLVED, FINALLY,** that copies of this resolution be furnished to the Speaker of the House, Honorable Ferdinand Martin G. Romualdez, Congressman Arthur F. Celeste, 1<sup>st</sup> District, Congressman Mark O. Cojuangco, 2<sup>nd</sup> District, Congressman Maria Rachel J. Arenas, 3<sup>rd</sup> District, Congressman Christopher V.P. de Venecia, 4<sup>th</sup> District, Congressman Ramon N. Guico, Jr., 5<sup>th</sup> District, Marlyn L. Primicias-Agabas, 6<sup>th</sup> District, Congressman Robert Raymund M. Estrella, Jr., Abono Partylist and Congressman Michael M. Morden, Abante Pangasinan Ilokano Partylist, all in the Province of Pangasinan, for their information and appropriate action.

CERTIFIED BY:

VERNA T/NAVA-PEREZ Secretary to the Sanggunian

ATTESTED:

SP MEMBER NOEL C. BINCE Temporary Presiding Officer

