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SENATE

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P.S. Res. No. 1047

Introduced by SENATOR WIN GATCHALIAN

RESOLUTION
DIRECTING THE APPROPRIATE SENATE COMMITTEE TO CONDUCT AN
INQUIRY, IN AID OF LEGISLATION, TO EVALUATE THE MANDATE OF
THE NATIONAL COUNCIL FOR CHILDREN'S TELEVISION UNDER THE
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION FOR THE PURPOSE OF CRAFTING
COMPLEMENTARY OR AMENDATORY LEGISLATION IN PURSUIT OF
RIGHTSIZING THE NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

1 **WHEREAS**, it is a policy of the State to recognize the vital role of the
2 youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral,
3 spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. The State shall inculcate in the
4 youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public
5 and civic affairs;¹

6

7 **WHEREAS**, it is also a policy of the State to give priority to education,
8 science and technology, arts, culture, and sports to foster patriotism and
9 nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation
10 and development.² Moreover, the State recognizes the vital role of
11 communication and information in nation-building;³

¹ 1987 Constitution, Article II, Section 13.

² *Id.* at Sec. 17.

³ *Id.* at Sec. 24.

1 **WHEREAS**, Republic Act (R.A.) No. 8370, otherwise known as the
2 “Children’s Television Act of 1997”, established a National Council for
3 Children’s Television (NCCT)⁴ to promote and encourage the production and
4 broadcasting of developmentally appropriate television programs for children
5 and to monitor the implementation of the Act and other government policies
6 and regulations pertaining to children's broadcast programs;⁵

7
8 **WHEREAS**, the NCCT was originally attached to the Office of the
9 President for purposes of administrative supervision.⁶ Executive Order No.
10 203, series of 2003,⁷ recognized the vital importance and impact of broadcast

⁴ Sec. 4, Republic Act (R.A.) No. 8370.

⁵ NCCT History and Mandates, <https://ncct.gov.ph/about-ncct/history-and-mandates/>.
Sec. 7 of R.A. No. 8370 enumerates the following functions of the NCCT:

- a) to formulate and recommend plans, policies and priorities for government and private sector (i.e., broadcasters, producers, advertisers) action towards the development of high quality locally-produced children’s television programming, to meet the developmental and informational needs of children;
- b) to promote and encourage the production and broadcasting of developmentally-appropriate television programs for children through the administration of a national endowment fund for children’s television and other necessary mechanisms;
- c) to monitor, review and classify children’s television programs and advertisements aired during the hours known to be child-viewing hours in order to take appropriate action such as disseminating information to the public and bringing monitoring results to the attention of concerned agencies for appropriate action;
- d) to formulate, together with the television broadcast industry, a set of standards for television programs shown during child-viewing hours and work closely with the industry for the adoption and implementation of said standards;
- e) to initiate the conduct of research for policy formulation and program development and disseminate its results to broadcasters, advertisers, parents and educators on issues related to television and Filipino children;
- f) to promote media education within the formal school system and other non-formal means in cooperation with private organizations;
- g) to monitor the implementation of this Act and other existing government policies and regulations pertaining to children’s broadcast programs, as well as to recommend and require the appropriate government agencies and/or self-regulatory bodies concerned to enforce the appropriate sanctions for violations of these regulations and policies based on their respective mandates;
- h) to recommend to Congress appropriate legislative measures which will grant incentives for independent producers and broadcasters to encourage the production of quality local children’s television programs; and
- i) to act on complaints committed in violation of this Act with the goal of protecting children from the negative and harmful influences and to cause or initiate the prosecution of violators of this Act

⁶ *Id.* at Sec. 4.

⁷ Dated May 5, 2003.

1 media on the value formation and intellectual development of children under
2 the supervision of the Department of Education (DepEd), and thus transferred
3 the NCCT from the Office of the President to the DepEd;

4
5 **WHEREAS**, it is noteworthy that while the DepEd shall have
6 administrative supervision of the NCCT, it is not designated as a member of
7 the NCCT Council⁸ or its Advisory Committee⁹;

8
9 **WHEREAS**, in the 2021 Commission on Audit (COA) Report, it was noted
10 that the NCCT has not been creating and delivering new Children's TV
11 programs and other activities for three years (2018-2020), hence the failure
12 to maximize the purpose of the National Endowment Fund for Children's
13 Television (NEFCTV)¹⁰. COA further noted that NCCT has no comprehensive
14 investment, withdrawal and usage policy guidelines to effectively and
15 efficiently administer the fund to ensure its sustainability which may affect
16 the continuous granting of developmentally appropriate television programs
17 for children in compliance with the NCCT mandate. Thus, COA recommended
18 that the NCCT initiate steps or measures to increase and maximize the use of
19 the NEFCTV by creating programs and activities that will attain the purpose
20 of the fund and the mandate of the NCCT. This audit observation was
21 reiterated in the 2022 COA Audit Report since the NCCT failed to act on COA's

⁸ Sec. 4, R.A. No. 8370. *Establishment of a National Council for Children's Television*. — Members of the Council shall represent the following sectors, namely: academe, broadcast media, child development specialists, parents and child-focused non-government organizations. The nominees shall be nominated by their respective organization and the Council for the Welfare of Children in consultation with the Advisory Committee.

⁹ Sec. 6, R.A. No. 8370. *The Advisory Committee and Its Composition*. — The members shall be composed of the following: Council for the Welfare of Children, National Commission for Culture and the Arts, Kapisanan ng mga Brodkaster ng Pilipinas, Philippine Association for National Advertisers, Philippine Information Agency, Movie and Television Review and Classification Board, and National Telecommunications Commission.

¹⁰ Sec. 12, R.A. No. 8370. *The National Endowment Fund for Children's Television*. — The creation of a National Endowment Fund for Children's Television is created for the promotion of high standards of indigenous program development in children's television and media specifically intended for Filipino children.

1 prior recommendation;¹¹

2
3 **WHEREAS**, for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024, one of NCCT's projects is to co-
4 produce a children's television and/or child-friendly television program
5 through the administration of the NEFCTV.¹² Furthermore, NCCT has an
6 additional budget request for FY 2024 for, among others, the production and
7 broadcast of child-friendly television programs in the amount of Php 30
8 million;¹³

9
10 **WHEREAS**, there is a need to review the programs and accomplishments
11 of the NCCT vis-a-vis its mandate as a policy-making body in pursuit of
12 rightsizing the bureaucracy to streamline government operations. This has
13 been one of the priority agenda of the national government to upskill and
14 reskill the current government workforce by determining redundant positions
15 and functions that could be merged;¹⁴

16
17 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE**
18 **PHILIPPINES**, to direct the appropriate Senate committee to conduct an
19 inquiry, in aid of legislation, to evaluate the mandate of the National Council
20 for Children's Television under the Department of Education for the purpose
21 of crafting complementary or amendatory legislation in pursuit of rightsizing
22 the national government.

Adopted,



WIN GATCHALIAN

¹¹ CPBRD Agency Budget Notes for FY 2024: Department of Education, Congressional Policy and Budget Research Department, p. 29.

¹² Briefer on the FY 2024 Proposed Budget: Department of Education, Legislative Budget Research and Monitoring Office, September 4, 2023, p. 40.

¹³ NCCT Presentation for 2024 Budget Hearing.

¹⁴ <https://www.pna.gov.ph/articles/1198856>, as updated on April 4, 2023, 5:33 pm.