

SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES

Senate Bill No. **2567**

RECEIVED BY 

Introduced by Senator Edgardo J. Angara

Research has proven that half of a person's ability to learn is developed in the first four years of life, and another 30 percent before one turns eight. It is during the early years from 0 to 6 when the learning pathways to the brain are formed. This is the foundation on which all future learning is based, yet these critical years of educational development are not adequately prioritized in our education system.

There are 13 million Filipino children of the ages 0 to 6, or approximately 14% of the total country's population of 95 M, according to the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB). However, only 1 of 4 children (or approximately 3,234,399) in the 0 to 6 years age-group were provided early childhood care in 2009 through the country's day care centers and in DepED pre-schools.

The World Conference on Early Childhood Care and Education held in Moscow in September 2010 adopted a resolution of the Education Commission at the 16th plenary meeting of the 35th UNESCO General Conference in Paris in October 2009, that recalled:

"The Convention on the Rights of the Child, which states ... that every child has the inherent right to life and that states, parties shall ensure to the maximum extent possible the survival and development of the child;"

"The World Declaration on Education for All (EFA), which states that learning begins at birth ... and that this calls for early childhood care and initial education;"

"The Dakar Framework for Action, which urges as the first EFA goal expanding and improving comprehensive early childhood care and education, especially for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children."

The Philippines, along with 192 United Nations member-states, has committed to the universal aims of Education for All (EFA) and the Millennium Development Goals by Year 2015. Two of the six (6) internationally agreed EFA goals on meeting the learning needs of children are: (1) *Expanding and improving comprehensive early childhood care and education, especially for the most vulnerable and disadvantaged children* and (2) *ensuring that by 2015 all children, particularly girls, children in difficult circumstances and those belong*

to ethnic minorities, have access to, and complete, free and compulsory primary education of good quality.

The Department of Education (DepED) National EFA Committee likewise identified *Early Child Care and Development (ECCD)* as critical to achieving EFA goals by 2015.

The Early Childhood Care and Development Council has been implementing a National System for Early Childhood Care and Development that consists of a "full range of health, nutrition, early education and social services programs that provide for the basic holistic needs of young children from conception (0) to age six (6), and to promote their optimum growth and development."

There is a need now to revisit the "Early Childhood Care and Development Act of 2000" or R.A. 8980 and amend certain provision for the purpose of strengthening the strategic role of the ECCD Council.

The ECCD Council must be empowered to undertake comprehensive, integrative and sustainable multi-sectoral and inter-agency collaboration for early childhood care and development -- tapping national government agencies, local government units, non-governmental organizations, families and communities; and among the private sectors, professional associations and academic institutions.

The UNESCO National Commission of the Philippines Education Committee in 2004 suggested a model learning system consisting of five (5) cycles of educational development which are the following:

- No. 1 – The cycle for ages 0 to 6 is the foundation cycle
- No. 2 - The cycle for ages 6 to 12 is the elementary education cycle
- No. 3 - The cycle for ages 12 to 18 is the secondary education cycle
- No. 4 - The cycle for ages 18 to 24 is the higher education cycle
- No. 5 - The cycle for ages 24 and above is the continuing education cycle

This bill calls for the adoption by the State of a policy recognizing the early years from conception (0) to age six (6) as the First Cycle of Educational Development; ensuring universal access to early childhood care and development programs of all Filipino children from conception (0) to six (6) years; and amending certain provisions of R.A. 8980 on the basis of the experiences of its implementation since Year 2000.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

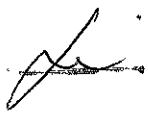

EDGARDO J. ANGARA

Senator of the Republic of the Philippines

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SENATE

Senate Bill No. 2567

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Introduced by Senator Edgardo J. Angara

**AN ACT RECOGNIZING THE EARLY YEARS FROM 0 TO 6
AS THE FIRST CYCLE OF EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT,
AMENDING REPUBLIC ACT NO. 8980 FOR THIS PURPOSE,
STRENGTHENING THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT
COUNCIL, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

1 Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress
2 assembled.

3
4 **SECTION 1.** Section 1 of Republic Act No. 8980, shall be amended to read as follows:

5 "Section 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the ["ECCD Act"]
6 **"EARLY YEARS ACT OF 2010."**

7
8 **SECTION 2.** Section 2 of Republic Act No. 8980 shall be amended to read as follows:

9 "Section 2. Declaration of Policy - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
10 promote the rights of children to survival, development and special protection with full
11 recognition of the nature of childhood and its special needs; and to support parents in
12 their roles as primary caregivers and as their children's first teachers.

13 "The State shall institutionalize a National System for Early Childhood Care and
14 Development (ECCD) that is comprehensive, integrative and sustainable, that involves
15 multi-sectoral and inter-agency collaboration at the national and local levels among
16 government; among service providers, families and communities, and among the public
17 and private sectors, nongovernment organizations; professional associations, and
18 academic institutions.

1 “This System shall promote the inclusion of children with special needs and advocate
2 respect for cultural diversity. It shall be anchored on complementary strategies for
3 ECCD that include service delivery for children from **ZERO (0)** to age six (6),
4 educating parents and caregivers, encouraging the active involvement of parents and
5 communities in ECCD programs, raising awareness about the important efforts that
6 improve the quality of life for young children and families.

7 **“IT SHALL ALSO BE THE POLICY OF THE STATE TO RECOGNIZE THE**
8 **EARLY YEARS FROM ZERO (0) TO AGE SIX (6) AS THE FIRST CYCLE OF**
9 **EDUCATIONAL DEVELOPMENT DURING WHICH FIFTY PERCENT (50%)**
10 **OF THE CHILD’S ABILITY TO LEARN IS DEVELOPED; FROM WHICH**
11 **SHALL BE FORMED THE MAIN LEARNING PATHWAYS IN THE BRAIN**
12 **THAT SHALL BE THE BASE OF ALL FUTURE LEARNING.”**

13
14 **Section 3.** Section 3 of RA 8980 shall be amended to read as follows:

15
16 “Section 3. Objectives – The objectives of the National ECCD System are:

17 “(a) To achieve improved infant and child survival rates by ensuring that adequate
18 health and nutrition [program] **PROGRAMS** are accessible to young children and
19 their [mothers] **PARENTS** from the prenatal period throughout the early childhood
20 years;

21 “(b) To enhance the physical, social, emotional, cognitive, psychological, spiritual and
22 language development of young children;

23 “(c) To enhance the role of parents **AND OTHER CAREGIVERS** as the primary
24 caregivers and educators of their children **ESPECIALLY** from [birth onwards] **ZERO**
25 **(0) TO SIX (6) YEARS;**

26
27 “(d) To facilitate a smooth transition from care and education provided at home to
28 community or school-based setting and to primary school;

1 “(e)To enhance the capabilities of service providers and their supervisors to comply
2 with quality standards for various ECCD programs;

3 “(f)To enhance and sustain the efforts of communities to promote ECCD programs and
4 ensure that special support is provided for poor and disadvantaged communities;

5 “(g)To ensure that young children are adequately prepared for the formal learning
6 system **AND** that both public and private schools are responsive to the development
7 needs of these children;

8 “(h)To establish an efficient system for early identification, prevention, referral and
9 intervention for **GIFTEDNESS AND** development disorders and disabilities [in early
10 childhood] **IN CHILDREN FROM ZERO (0) TO SIX (6) YEARS;** and

11 “(i)To improve the quality standards of public and private ECCD programs through,
12 but not limited to, a registration and credential system for ECCD service providers.”

13
14 **SECTION 4.** Section 4 of Republic Act No. 8980 shall be amended to read as follows:

15 “Section 4. Definitions – For purposes of this Act:

16 “(a) Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD) System refers to the full range of
17 health, nutrition, early education and social services programs that provide for the basic
18 holistic needs of young children from [birth] **ZERO (0) TO AGE SIX (6)**, and to
19 promote their optimum growth and development. These programs include:

20
21 “(1) Center-based programs, such as the day care service established under
22 Republic Act No. 6972, public and private pre-schools, kindergarten or school-
23 based programs, community or church-based early childhood education programs
24 initiated by non-government organizations or people’s organizations, workplace-
25 related child care and education programs, child minding centers, health centers
26 and stations; and

1 “(2) Home-based programs, such as the neighborhood-based play groups, family
2 day care programs, parent education and home visiting programs.

3
4 “(b) ECCD Service Providers include the various professionals, paraprofessionals,
5 and volunteer caregivers who are directly responsible for the care and education of
6 young children **FROM ZERO (0) TO SIX (6) YEARS** through the various center and
7 home-based programs.

8 “They include, but **ARE** not limited to, day care workers, teachers, teacher-aiders,
9 rural health midwives, social workers, community health workers, barangay
10 nutrition scholars, parent effectiveness service volunteers, child development workers,
11 and family day care providers.

12 “(c) ECCD Curriculum refers to the age-appropriate and developmentally appropriate
13 educational objectives, programs of activities, organized learning experiences and
14 recommended learning materials for children that are implemented by service
15 providers through center and home-based programs. It shall consist of national
16 program goals and guidelines, instructional objectives, and content outlines
17 integrating local learning experiences and indigenous learning materials.

18 “(d)Parent Education refers to the various formal and alternative means of providing
19 parents with information, skills, and support systems to assist them in their roles as their
20 children’s primary caregivers and educators. These include public and private parent
21 education programs linked to center, home and media-based child care and education
22 programs.

23
24 **SECTION 5.** Section 5 of Republic Act No. 8980 shall be amended to read as follows:

25 “Section 5. System Framework and Components -- The ECCD System shall include the
26 following components:

27 “(a) ECCD Curriculum -- which focuses on children’s total development according to
28 their individual needs and socio-cultural background. It shall promote the delivery of

1 complementary and integrative services for health care, nutrition, early childhood
2 education, sanitation and cultural activities. It shall use the child's first language as
3 the medium of instruction.

4
5 “(b) Parent Education and Involvement, Advocacy, and Mobilization of Communities –
6 which harness and develop parents' strengths as providers of ECCD **PROGRAMS** at
7 home, active partners of other stakeholders, advocates for community concerns that
8 **AFFECT** children, and pillars of support for local and national ECCD programs through
9 community organization efforts.

10
11 “(c) Human Resource Development Program – which establishes mechanisms for the
12 systematic professionalization of ECCD service providers, through enrollment in
13 educational programs in site-based or distance education modes, through pre-service[s]
14 or in-serviceS training including continuing education programs, whereby a registration
15 and credential system shall be developed in the ECCD System.

16
17 “(d) ECCD Management – which focuses on a continuing process of planning,
18 implementation, supervision, financial management, monitoring, evaluation and
19 reporting. It shall encourage the active involvement and build the capabilities of
20 service providers, parents and local government officials to sustain the program,
21 and it shall be guided by the principles of decentralization as stipulated in the Local
22 Government Code of 1991 **AND THE PRINCIPLES OF SHARED GOVERNANCE**
23 **IN THE GOVERNANCE OF BASIC EDUCATION ACT OF 2001.**

24
25 “(e) Quality Standards and Accreditation – which ensures that each component
26 in the ECCD System complies with national quality standards, [to be] established by
27 the [National] ECCD [Coordinating] Council [as provided for under Section 8 of this
28 Act], linked to an accreditation process.”

29
30 **SECTION 6.** Section 6 of Republic Act No. 8980 shall be amended to read as follows:

1 “Section 6. Expanding the ECCD System. – The National ECCD System shall be
2 [established in at least three (3) regions each year, as may be determined by the National
3 ECCD Coordinating Council to achieve national coverage over a five-year period.]
4 **EXPANDED TO ALL PROVINCES, CITIES/MUNICIPALITIES AND**
5 **BARANGAYS AS MAY BE DETERMINED BY THE ECCD COUNCIL IN**
6 **ORDER TO ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL COVERAGE OF ALL CHILDREN FROM**
7 **ZERO (0) TO SIX (6) YEARS OVER A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD.**

8
9 **SECTION 7.** Section 7 of Republic Act No. 8980 shall be amended to read as follows:

10 “Section 7. Implementing Arrangements and Operational Structures. -- The
11 implementation of the National ECCD System shall be the joint responsibility of the
12 [national government agencies] **ECCD COUNCIL AND THE** local government units,
13 non-government organizations, and private organizations that are accredited to deliver the
14 services or to provide training and technical assistance.

15
16 “(a) Responsibilities of the [National Government] **ECCD COUNCIL** -- [National
17 government agencies] **THE ECCD COUNCIL** shall be responsible for developing
18 policies and programs, providing technical assistance and support to the ECCD
19 service providers in consultation with coordinating committees at the provincial,
20 city/municipal, and barangay levels [as provided for in Section 8 of this Act] and
21 monitoring of ECCD service benefits and outcomes.

22
23 “[The Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the Department of
24 Education, Culture and Sports (DECS), the Department of Health (DOH), the
25 Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG), the Department of Labor and
26 Employment (DOLE), the Department of Agriculture (DA), the Department of Justice
27 (DOJ), the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA), and the National
28 Nutrition Council (NNC)] **THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED), THE**
29 **DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT (DSWD), THE**
30 **DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH), THE NATIONAL NUTRITION**

1 **COUNCIL (NNC) AND THE UNION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES OF THE**
2 **PHILIPPINES (ULAP)** shall jointly prepare annual ECCD work plans that will
3 coordinate their respective technical assistance and support for the National ECCD
4 Program.

5
6 “They shall consolidate existing program implementing guidelines that ensure
7 consistency in integrated service delivery within the National ECCD System.

8
9
10 “(1) The [DECS] **DEPED** shall promote the National ECCD Program in
11 schools. ECCD programs in public schools shall be under the joint
12 responsibility of their respective school principal/school-head and parents -
13 teachers – [community (PTCA)] **ASSOCIATION (PTA)** within the
14 standards set forth in the National ECCD System and under the
15 guidance of the City/Municipal ECCD Coordinating Committee for the
16 effective and equitable delivery of ECCD services.

17
18 “It shall also make available existing facilities of Public elementary schools for
19 ECCD classes.

20
21 “(2) Private [and Public pre-schools] shall be registered by the [Provincial or City
22 ECCD Coordinating Committee] Council upon the recommendation of the
23 [respective division office of the DECS.] **CITY/MUNICIPAL ECCD**
24 **COORDINATING COMMITTEES.**

25
26 “NGO-initiated community, church, home, and workplace-based service providers
27 shall be registered **BY THE COUNCIL** upon the recommendation of the
28 [provincial/city social welfare and development office] **CITY/MUNICIPAL**
29 **ECCD COORDINATING COMMITTEES.**

1 “These public and private ECCD service providers shall operate within the
2 standards set forth in the National ECCD system and under the guidance of the
3 City/ Municipal ECCD Coordinating Committee for the effective delivery of
4 ECCD services.

5
6 “(b) Responsibilities of Local Government Units – Local government units (LGUs)
7 shall be primarily responsible for:

8
9 “(1) Implementing the National ECCD Program by providing basic public ECCD
10 services;

11
12 “(2) Supporting the organization of parent cooperatives to initiate the
13 establishment of ECCD programs;

14
15 “(3) Ensuring that service providers of public ECCD programs under their
16 supervision shall be justly compensated, that adequate funds are available, and their
17 working conditions are conducive to fulfill national quality standards; and

18
19 “(4) Providing counterpart funds for the training and continuing education
20 of PUBLIC ECCD service providers, and supporting the operations of Provincial,
21 City/Municipal and Barangay ECCD Coordinating Committees.

22
23 “(c) Responsibilities of Families and Communities - The families and
24 communities shall support the local ECCD programs by participating in
25 various projects for the overall development of their children[.] **FROM ZERO (0)**
26 **TO SIX (6) YEARS.**

27
28 **SECTION 8.** Section 8 of Republic Act No. 8980 shall be amended to read as follows:

1 “Section 8. [Creation of National Coordinating Council and Coordinating
2 Committees for ECCD] **STRENGTHENING THE ECCD COUNCIL AND THE**
3 **COORDINATING COMMITTEES FOR ECCD AT THE PROVINCIAL,**
4 **CITY/MUNICIPAL AND BARANGAY LEVELS.** - [To ensure the sustained inter-
5 agency and multi-sectoral collaboration from the national, provincial, city/municipal and
6 barangay coordinating committees shall be organized.] **TO ENSURE THE STATE’S**
7 **FOCUS ON BUILDING A STRONG FOUNDATION FOR THE LEARNING**
8 **AND DEVELOPMENT OF CHILDREN DURING THE EARLY YEARS FROM**
9 **ZERO (0) TO SIX (6) YEARS; SUPPORT THE FULL RANGE OF HEALTH,**
10 **NUTRITION, EARLY EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES PROGRAMS**
11 **FOR THE CHILD’S HOLISTIC DEVELOPMENT; AND ENSURE SUSTAINED**
12 **INTER-AGENCY AND MULTI-SECTORAL COLLABORATION AMONG THE**
13 **PROVINCIAL, CITY/MUNICIPAL AND BARANGAY ECCD COORDINATING**
14 **COMMITTEES, THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT**
15 **COUNCIL IS HEREBY STRENGTHENED.**

16
17 “a) [National ECCD Coordinating Council – The Council for the Welfare of Children
18 (CWC) shall also function as the National ECCD Coordinating Council, hereinafter
19 referred to as the Council, and shall hereby be under the Office of the President.]
20 **ORGANIZATION -- THE EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT**
21 **COUNCIL SHALL BE COMPOSED OF A GOVERNING BOARD AND A**
22 **SECRETARIAT. THE ECCD GOVERNING BOARD SHALL BE HEADED BY**
23 **A CHAIRMAN WITH THE SALARY GRADE AND EMOLUMENTS OF A**
24 **CABINET SECRETARY TO BE APPOINTED BY THE PRESIDENT.**

25
26 (1) **Composition OF THE ECCD GOVERNING BOARD --** [In addition to the
27 existing members of the CWC, two (2) private individuals who are ECCD
28 practitioners and experts shall be appointed by the President, upon recommendation
29 of the Council for a term of two (2) years subject to one (1) reappointment. The

1 Council shall meet once a month or as often as necessary. The Secretaries of the
2 DSWD, DECS, DOH, and DILG shall act as co-chairperson of the Council and must
3 represented by a person with a rank not lower than an Undersecretary.] **THE**
4 **FOLLOWING SHALL BE MEMBERS OF THE ECCD GOVERNING**
5 **BOARD:**

- 6
- 7 1) DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED)
- 8 2) DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT
9 (DSWD)
- 10 3) DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH)
- 11 4) NATIONAL NUTRITION COUNCIL (NNC)
- 12 5) UNION OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES OF THE PHILIPPINES (ULAP)
- 13

14 IN ADDITION, ONE (1) PRIVATE INDIVIDUAL WHO IS AN ECCD
15 PRACTITIONER AND EXPERT SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE
16 PRESIDENT UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD WHO
17 SHALL SERVE FOR A TERM OF TWO (2) YEARS SUBJECT TO ONE (1)
18 REAPPOINTMENT.

19

20 THE HEADS OF THE CONCERNED DEPARTMENTS, AGENCIES
21 AND INSTITUTIONS SHALL AS MUCH AS POSSIBLE ATTEND THE
22 MEETINGS OF THE BOARD. IN THEIR ABSENCE THEY MUST
23 DESIGNATE A PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE WITH A RANK NOT
24 LOWER THAN AN UNDERSECRETARY OR ITS EQUIVALENT WHO
25 MAY ATTEND AND PARTICIPATE AT MEETINGS OF THE BOARD.
26 THE BOARD SHALL MEET ONCE A MONTH OR AS OFTEN AS
27 NECESSARY.
28

1 (2) [Council] ECCD Secretariat -- [The CWC Secretariat shall also serve as the
2 secretariat of the Council. It shall be headed by an executive director, who shall be
3 appointed by the President, upon the recommendation of the Council. He/She shall
4 have the rank, privileges, and emoluments of a Career Executive Service Officer I.
5 Nothing herein shall prejudice any right vested prior to the enactment of this Act.]

6
7 **THERE SHALL BE ESTABLISHED AN ECCD SECRETARIAT HEADED BY**
8 **AN EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR WHO SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE**
9 **PRESIDENT UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE BOARD. HE/SHE**
10 **SHALL HAVE THE RANK, PRIVILEGES, AND EMOLUMENTS OF A**
11 **CAREER EXECUTIVE SERVICE OFFICER I.**

12
13 There shall be created two (2) permanent positions of Deputy Executive Directors to
14 be appointed by the [Council] **BOARD**, one of whom shall be [exclusively]
15 concerned with ECCD programs and activities and the other [exclusively with the
16 existing functions of the CWC.] **WITH GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE**
17 **SERVICES OF THE ECCD COUNCIL.**

18
19 The [Deputy Executive Directors] **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR AND THE**
20 **DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTORS** shall be assisted by senior technical staff to
21 be seconded from the [DSWD, DECS, DOH, DILG, DOLE, DA, DOJ, NEDA and
22 NNC for a period] **DEPED, DSWD, DOH, NNC AND ULAP WHO SHALL**
23 **SERVE FOR A PERIOD** of at least two (2) years, subject to renewal and shall be
24 entitled to whatever additional remuneration the law allows for such secondment.]

25
26
27 (3) Functions of the [National] ECCD [Coordinating] Council -- [The Council shall]
28 **THE ECCD COUNCIL SHALL IMPLEMENT THE NATIONAL EARLY**

1 **CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT SYSTEM AND PERFORM THE**
2 **FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS:**

3
4 (i) Promulgate policies and implementing guidelines for ECCD programs in
5 consultation with stakeholders at various levels, including the regional level
6 when appropriate, consistent with the national policy and program
7 frameworks as defined in this Act;

8
9 (ii) Establish ECCD program standards that reflect developmentally appropriate
10 and culturally relevant practices for ECCD programs, which shall interface
11 with the primary school curriculum of the [DECS] **DEPED**;

12
13 (iii) Develop a national system for the recruitment, registration, continuing
14 education and equivalency, and credential system of ECCD service providers,
15 supervisors and administrators to improve and professionalize the ECCD
16 sector and upgrade quality standards of public and private ECCD programs;

17
18 (iv) Develop and implement a system of awards and recognition to deserving
19 ECCD program implementers and service providers;

20
21 (v) **PROMOTE, ENCOURAGE AND** coordinate the conduct of ECCD
22 programs in national government agencies and monitor the delivery of
23 services to the ECCD program beneficiaries;

24
25 (vi) Evaluate and assess the impact and outcome of various ECCD programs
26 nationwide through an effective information system;

27

1 (vii) Develop and establish a national system for early identification, screening,
2 surveillance of early childhood disabilities, developmental problems, and
3 giftedness;

4
5 (viii) Develop and implement various support mechanisms that maximize the
6 public and private resources for implementing ECCD programs, giving
7 priority to the needy and high risk children from poor communities;

8
9 (ix) Provide counterpart funds to poor and disadvantaged communities for the
10 establishment and expansion of public ECCD programs, improvement of
11 physical facilities and for hiring of ECCD providers;

12
13 (x) Promote and encourage private sector initiatives for the establishment of
14 ECCD programs;

15
16 (xi) Provide guidelines for ECCD Coordinating Committees at the provincial,
17 city/municipal and barangay levels for the conduct of solicitations and
18 requests for assistance from local and international civic organizations, private
19 philanthropic foundations to supplement available resources.

20
21 **SECTION. 9. [(b) Provincial ECCD Coordinating Committee. Composition, Function,**
22 **Secretariat.] RECONSTITUTING THE ECCD COORDINATING COMMITTEES.**

23 **– [There shall be created in every province a Provincial ECCD Coordinating Committee.]**

24 **THE ECCD COORDINATING COMMITTEES ESTABLISHED AT THE**
25 **PROVINCIAL, CITY/MUNICIPAL AND BARANGAY LEVELS SHALL BE**
26 **RECONSTITUTED AND PERFORM THE FOLLOWING FUNCTIONS:**

1 “(a)[(1) Composition. -] The Provincial ECCD Coordinating Committee shall be
2 composed of the Governor of the Province as Chairperson, [Division Superintendent
3 of DECS, Provincial Planning and Development Officer, Provincial Budget Officer,
4 Provincial Health Officer, Provincial Director of DILG, Provincial Social Welfare
5 and Development Officer, Provincial Treasurer, President of the Provincial League of
6 Municipal Mayors, and two (2) representatives of non-government organizations
7 operating ECCD programs appointed by the committee, for a two-year term, subject
8 to one (1) reappointment, as members] **AND MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE
9 DEPED, DSWD, DOH, NCC AND ULAP. THE PROVINCIAL ECCD
10 COORDINATING COMMITTEE SHALL BE UNDER THE PROVINCIAL
11 DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND SHALL PERFORM FUNCTIONS
12 SIMILAR TO THE ECCD COUNCIL AS APPROPRIATE INCLUDING
13 OTHER FUNCTIONS THAT MAY BE PROVIDED IN THE
14 IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF THIS ACT. THERE
15 SHALL BE ORGANIZED A SECRETARIAT TO COORDINATE AND
16 MONITOR THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF ECCD PROGRAMS
17 IN THE PROVINCE. IT SHALL BE HEADED BY A PROVINCIAL ECCD
18 OFFICER, WHO SHALL BE APPOINTED BY THE GOVERNOR, UPON
19 THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PROVINCIAL ECCD
20 COORDINATING COMMITTEE. HE/SHE SHALL HAVE A RANK,
21 PRIVILEGE AND EMOLUMENT OF A DEPARTMENT HEAD. SUCH
22 SUMS AS MAY BE NECESSARY FOR THE SALARIES, ALLOWANCES
23 AND OTHER BENEFITS OF THE PROVINCIAL ECCD OFFICER SHALL
24 BE PROVIDED BY THE PROVINCE.**

25
26 [(2) Functions - The Provincial ECCD Coordinating Committee shall be under
27 the Provincial Development Council and shall perform similar functions as the
28 [National] ECCD [Coordinating] Council as appropriate, including other

1 functions that may be provided in the Implementing Rules and Regulations of this
2 Act. It shall coordinate the delivery of services and support from the National
3 ECCD Coordinating Council and the national line agencies involved in ECCD
4 programs. It shall also support and complement the resources available to
5 municipalities and barangays in the province in the expansion and improvement
6 of ECCD programs, as well as be responsible for the registration of ECCD
7 programs and service providers; and

8 (3) Secretariat - The Provincial ECCD Coordinating Committee shall
9 organize a secretariat which shall coordinate and monitor the effective
10 implementation of ECCD programs in the province. It shall be headed by
11 the provincial ECCD Officer, who shall be appointed by the Governor,
12 upon the recommendation of the Provincial ECCD Coordinating
13 Committee. He/She shall have the rank, privileges and emoluments of a
14 Department head.

15 For the first three (3) years of the establishment of the ECCD system in the province, the
16 salary, allowances and other benefits of the Provincial ECCD Officer shall be paid for by
17 the Council. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the salaries, allowances and
18 other benefits of the Provincial ECCD Officer shall be provided by the province.]"

19 "[c)] (2) THE CITY/MUNICIPAL ECCD COORDINATING COMMITTEES
20 SHALL BE COMPOSED OF THE CITY/MUNICIPAL MAYOR AS
21 CHAIRPERSON AND MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE DEPED, DSWD, DOH,
22 NNC AND ULAP. THE CITY/MUNICIPAL ECCD COORDINATING
23 COMMITTEE SHALL BE UNDER THE CITY/MUNICIPAL DEVELOPMENT
24 COUNCIL AND SHALL PERFORM FUNCTIONS SIMILAR TO THE ECCD
25 COUNCIL AS APPROPRIATE INCLUDING OTHER FUNCTIONS THAT MAY
26 BE PROVIDED IN THE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS OF
27 THIS ACT. THERE SHALL BE ORGANIZED A SECRETARIAT TO

1 **COORDINATE AND MONITOR THE EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF**
2 **ECCD PROGRAMS IN THE CITY/MUNICIPALITY. IT SHALL BE HEADED**
3 **BY THE CITY/MUNICIPAL ECCD OFFICER, WHO SHALL BE APPOINTED**
4 **BY THE CITY/MUNICIPAL MAYOR, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE**
5 **CITY/MUNICIPAL ECCD COORDINATING COMMITTEE;** [City/Municipal
6 ECCD Coordinating Committee. Composition, Functions, Secretariat. -There shall be
7 created in every city and municipality a City/Municipal ECCD Coordinating Committee.

8 (1) Composition - The City/Municipal ECCD Coordinating Committee
9 shall be composed of the City/Municipal Mayor as Chairperson, the
10 Division Superintendent/ District Supervisor of DECS, City/Municipal
11 Planning and Development Officer, City/ Municipal Budget Officer,
12 City/Municipal Health Officer, City/Municipal Social Welfare and
13 Development Officer, City/Municipal Local Government, Officer,
14 City/Municipal Treasurer, City/Municipal Nutrition Officer, President of
15 the Association of Barangay Captains in the City/Municipality, President
16 of the Parent Teachers-Community Federation in the City/Municipality,
17 and two (2) representatives of non-government organizations involved in
18 ECCD programs in the City/Municipality appointed by the Committee for
19 a two-year term, subject to one (1) reappointment, as members.

20 (2) Functions - The City/Municipal ECCD Coordinating Committee shall
21 be under the city/municipal development council and shall perform similar
22 functions as the council as appropriate, including other functions that may
23 be provided in the Implementing Rules and Regulations. It shall likewise
24 support and complement the resources available to barangays in the
25 expansion and improvement of ECCD programs, coordinate and monitor
26 the delivery of services at the barangay level, ensure accurate reporting
27 and documentation of service delivery, as well as mobilize and encourage
28 private sector initiatives for the establishment of ECCD program

1 implementors in tile city/municipality that conforms to National ECCD
2 System Standards.

3 (3) Secretariat. - The City/Municipal ECCD Coordinating Committee shall
4 organize a Secretariat which shall coordinate and monitor the effective
5 implementation of ECCD programs in the city/municipality. It shall be
6 headed by the City/Municipal ECCD Officer, who shall be appointed by
7 the mayor, upon the recommendation of the City/Municipal ECCD
8 Coordinating Committee.]

9 **“[(d)] (3) THE BARANGAY ECCD COORDINATING COMMITTEES SHALL**
10 **BE COMPOSED OF THE BARANGAY CAPTAIN AS CHAIRPERSON AND**
11 **MEMBERS REPRESENTING THE DEPED, DSWD, DOH, NNC AND ULAP.**
12 **THE BARANGAY ECCD COORDINATING COMMITTEE SHALL BE UNDER**
13 **THE BARANGAY DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL AND SHALL BE**
14 **RESPONSIBLE FOR THE PROPER AND EFFECTIVE IMPLEMENTATION OF**
15 **PUBLIC ECCD PROGRAMS AND MAINTENANCE OF DATABASE SYSTEM**
16 **AT THE BARANGAY LEVEL. THERE SHALL BE ORGANIZED A**
17 **SECRETARIAT TO COORDINATE AND MONITOR THE EFFECTIVE**
18 **IMPLEMENTATION OF ECCD PROGRAMS IN THE BARANGAY. IT SHALL**
19 **BE HEADED BY A BARANGAY COUNCILOR, WHO SHALL BE APPOINTED**
20 **BY THE BARANGAY CAPTAIN, UPON RECOMMENDATION OF THE**
21 **BARANGAY ECCD COORDINATING COMMITTEE. [Barangay ECCD**
22 **Coordinating Committee - The Barangay Council for the Protection of Children (BCPC),**
23 **created under Presidential Decree 603, shall also function as the Barangay ECCD**
24 **Coordinating Committee. The BCPC shall be responsible for the proper and effective**
25 **implementation of public ECCD programs and maintenance of database system at the**
26 **barangay level. Pursuant to this, all barangays shall organize BCPCs in their respective**
27 **areas.**

1 “The BCPC shall be composed of, among others: the Barangay Captain, the school
2 head/s in the barangay, the Barangay health midwife, the Barangay health worker, the
3 Barangay nutrition scholar, the day care worker/s, parents, the Sangguniang Kabataan
4 Chairman, and a representative from child-focused non government
5 organizations/people's organizations, as members. The members of the BCPC shall elect
6 from among themselves the Chairperson.]”

7 **SECTION 9.** The provisions of Section 9 of Republic Act No. 8980 shall be amended to
8 read as follows:

9 “Section [9] **10.** Financing ECCD Programs. -- ECCD programs [at the community
10 level] shall be financed through a combination of public and private funds. All public
11 ECCD program providers shall prioritize [young] children from **ZERO (0) TO SIX (6)**
12 **YEARS FROM** families who are in greatest need and who can least afford private sector
13 programs.

14
15 “(a) Public support for ECCD programs. -- The government shall support public
16 ECCD programs through cost-sharing arrangements that shall involve the LGUs, and
17 counterpart funds from the national government agencies for technical assistance and
18 support. Additional funds may be generated from intergovernmental donors and
19 financial institutions by the appropriate government agencies through the NEDA to
20 support the public programs in **ALL** municipalities including the urban poor. Funds
21 shall be accessible to qualified LGUs through the Municipal Development Fund or
22 other financing mechanisms as prescribed by the Department of Budget and
23 Management (DBM). The ECCD Council may establish a trust fund to assist LGUs
24 in the expansion and upgrading of ECCD programs.

25
26 “There shall also be established a fund for an ECCD Program Contracting Scheme
27 with accredited private providers at the community levels.
28

1 "Primary health care programs, pre-natal and post-natal care, growth monitoring and
2 promotion, and supplementary nutrition programs shall continue to be funded through
3 the LGUs with technical support and additional resources from the DOH.

4
5 **"THE DSWD SHALL PROVIDE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FOR [t]The Day**
6 **Care Program, Parent Effectiveness Service, Child-Minding Centers, Family Day**
7 **Care and Parent-Child Development Programs that shall continue to be supported by**
8 **the LGUs in the form of construction of basic infrastructure, provision of facilities,**
9 **materials and equipment, compensation for service providers.**

10
11 "The kindergarten program in public **AND PRIVATE** schools **AND IN DAY CARE**
12 **CENTERS** shall continue to be supported by the [DECS] **DEPED** in cooperation
13 with the PTAs, where applicable, by providing teacher training, supplementary
14 learning materials and reference materials [for] **INCLUDING FOR THE EARLY**
15 **EDUCATION COMPONENT OF OTHER ECCD** programs.

16
17 "The **DEPED, DSWD, [DECS], DOH, [DILG], NNC and ULAP** shall support the
18 implementation of the National ECCD Program and shall include in their respective
19 annual general appropriations beginning the fiscal year following the approval of this
20 Act, the necessary funding to achieve the goal of [national] **UNIVERSAL** coverage
21 **FOR ALL CHILDREN FROM ZERO (0) TO SIX (6) YEARS** within a five-year
22 period and sustain the Program from thereon. The work and financial plans of
23 [DSWD, DECS, DOH and DILG] **THE DEPED, DSWD, DOH, NNC AND ULAP**
24 **SHALL BE COORDINATED WITH THE ECCD COUNCIL.**

25
26 "(b) Support for ECCD Programs. -- Support for ECCD programs can be solicited
27 from local and international civic organizations, and private philanthropic foundations
28 to supplement available resources.

1 Workplace-based or related ECCD programs shall be supported by corporations and
2 employees in the form of physical facilities and recurrent operating costs. The
3 operating costs incurred for employer or corporate-sponsored ECCD programs can be
4 deducted from taxable income and[or] avail of the tax benefits under the “Adopt-A-
5 School” Law; provided that the employer or corporation will not charge user fees.
6

7 “(c) Costs to be shouldered by Families. -- The Council shall monitor user fees and
8 contributions allowed for both public and private programs to ensure that these are
9 affordable and within reasonable limits.
10

11 “User fees for public programs should be limited to monthly contributions intended to
12 subsidize recurrent costs. Parents are encouraged to contribute their time and services
13 especially in cases where they are unable to afford the regular contributions.
14

15 **Section 10.** Section 10 of RA 8980 shall be amended to read as follows:
16

17 “Section [10] 11. Appropriations. -- For the implementation of this Act the amount
18 of [Four hundred million pesos (P400,000,000.00)] **FIVE HUNDRED MILLION**
19 **PESOS (□500,000,000.00)** per year for five (5) years is hereby appropriated for the
20 National ECCD Program of the ECCD Council effective upon approval of this Act[.]
21 **THAT SHALL BE UTILIZED TO SUPPORT THE GOAL OF ACHIEVING**
22 **UNIVERSAL ECCD COVERAGE FOR ALL CHILDREN FROM ZERO (0) TO**
23 **SIX (6) YEARS.** Said amount shall be funded from the gross income of the Philippine
24 Amusement and Gaming Corporation and shall be directly remitted in four (4) quarterly
25 installments to a special account of the ECCD Council. Thereafter, such sums as may be
26 necessary for the operations of the Council shall be included in the General
27 Appropriations Act.
28

1 [A supplementary] **AN INITIAL ANNUAL** appropriations in the amount of [Thirty
2 million pesos (P30,000,000.00)] **ONE HUNDRED MILLION PESOS**
3 **(100,000,000.00)** shall be provided to [the Council from the President's Organizational
4 Adjustment Fund] support the operations of the ECCD Council upon approval of this
5 Act.

6 [The above appropriations shall be separate and distinct from the annual budget of the
7 CWC.]

8 “Expenses for ECCD programs and technical support packages provided by the [DSWD,
9 DECS, DOH, DILG, DOLE, DA, DOJ, NEDA,] **DEPED, DSWD, DOH** and the NNC
10 shall be specified as separate line items in their respective annual budgets in the General
11 Appropriations Act. Their annual ECCD workplans shall be the basis for these budgets
12 and shall be released directly to their regional or provincial offices whenever applicable.”

13
14 **Section 11.** Section 11 of RA 8980 shall be amended to read as follows:

15
16 “Section [11] **12.** Annual Report. -- The Council shall, at the close of each calendar
17 year, submit an annual report to Congress, giving a detailed account of its proceedings
18 and accomplishments during the year and making recommendations for the adoption of
19 measures that will improve the National ECCD System **AND ENSURE**
20 **ACHIEVEMENT OF UNIVERSAL ECCD COVERAGE FOR ALL CHILDREN**
21 **FROM ZERO (0) TO SIX (6) YEARS WITHIN A FIVE-YEAR PERIOD.”**

22
23 **Section 13.** Separability Clause. -- If any provision of this Act is declared
24 unconstitutional the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions
25 thereof.

1 **Section 14.** Repealing Clause. -- Pertinent provisions of all laws, decrees, executive
2 orders, presidential proclamations, rules and regulations or parts thereof contrary or inconsistent
3 with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

4
5 **Section 15.** Implementing Rules and Regulations. -- The Council in consultation with
6 appropriate government agencies and nongovernment organizations shall formulate and issue the
7 necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act within ninety (90) days after
8 the effectivity of this Act.

9
10 **Section 16.** Effectivity Clause. -- This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
11 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

12
13 Approved.