



'11 MAY 10 P2:45

SENATE  
Senate Bill No. 2809

RECEIVED BY: *[Signature]*

INTRODUCED BY Senator EDGARDO J. ANGARA

### EXPLANATORY NOTE

The improvement of the regular officer delivery system in the Philippine Air Force (PAF) is a long-felt need in the military establishment.

The PAF Flying School (PAFFS), which is at present, can no longer cope with the required number and proper training of officer pilots for the PAF because of inadequate facilities and logistical support. Additionally, since a college degree is an academic requirement for entrance into the PAFFS, we are somehow assured that students are more matured and equipped to face the demands required to be an Air Force officer.

The creation of the Philippine Air Force Academy (PAFA) is a response to this problem in line with the constitutional mandate of guaranteeing equal access of opportunity for public service.

Given the inherent political instability of a developing country such as the Philippines, we should see to it that an unwanted relationship among officers often called "regular officer homogeneity" is not created. Concerned sectors believe that this officer homogeneity" may endanger a potentially explosive political situation where an Armed Forces is controlled in all its branches, and at all levels, by regular officer school. The creation of the PAF Academy will help preclude this situation.

Existence of strong checks and balances in government is the essence to preserve democracy. And this practice of checks and balances should also be developed in the National Security Agencies and the Armed Services, since these are agencies among the protectors of the people and the state.

State therefore must promote the multiple sourcing of regular officers of the AFP from Filipino citizens of diverse culture and institutions. Thus, there shall be established in the Philippine Air Force an educational institution to be known as the Philippine Air Force Academy (PAFA) hereinafter referred to as the Academy, for instruction and preparation for military service of the Philippine Air Force Cadets, to be known as Aviation Cadets. The instruction is a **15-month program** in the Academy based on entry of students from different colleges and universities nationwide. Air Force specific subjects as designed by the PAF shall be taught in the Academy together with the officer and other aviation fields of training. Graduates shall be commissioned as regular officers of the AFP.

There is also a need to professionalize the other Air Force career areas like aircraft maintenance, avionics and air logistics to further enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the PAF. These highly specialized career fields cannot adequately addressed by a traditional military academy like the Philippine Military Academy.

A candidate who has completed a 4-year baccalaureate degree brings with him into the Academy the wealth of experience necessary to broaden his perspectives in academics

as well as his outlook among all cultures. The young men and women who are bright and come from the minority groups can likewise establish their career in the PAF. Their experiences and academic disciplines in social sciences obtained from the colleges and universities will hasten their maturity and will give them wider and better perspectives on what kind of a career they would like to pursue and how to serve country and people. The military training and discipline added to their highly technical expertise in aviation and related fields obtained and instilled in the Academy, performance of their mission and exercise of leadership will be more balanced and matured.

The present assets of the PAF Officers Candidate School (OCS) such as barracks, dormitories, office buildings, classrooms, technical equipment and other facilities necessary for training already exist at the Air Education and Training Command (AETC), Fernando Air Base, Lipa City. These assets can be transferred to the Academy. **The present budget of the PAF is enough to start, sustain and operate the Academy.** If there will be expenses incurred it will just be on renovation of existing buildings and construction of additional mandatory facilities, equipment upgrades, salaries and accommodation of civilian professors and civilian employees. Majority of the instructors will be officers in the PAF. Future expansions and upgrading of the Academy will be budgeted by Congress. Also, having a 15-month program in the Academy will be cheaper than a 4-year program. The Academy experiences of the Aviation Cadets plus the military discipline instilled in them will make them good leaders in the AFP and the country as well. From these graduates will be graduates and other aviation field officers who will man the modernized Philippine Air Force. And even after retirement or separation from the military service the training and education earned in the Academy will be usable throughout life.

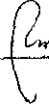
The PAF Academy as conceptualized is geared towards making available an adequate and dedicated corps of professional Air Force officers with proper education, training and orientation to lead and manage the complex technologies inherent in the field of aviation.

  
EDGARDO J. ANGARA



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SENATE  
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AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE AIR FORCE ACADEMY (PAFA) AND  
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the Philippines in Congress assembled:*

1           **Section 1.    Short Title** – There shall be established in the Philippine Air Force  
2 an educational institution to be known as the Philippine Air Force Academy (PAFA),  
3 hereinafter referred to as the Academy, for the instruction and preparation for military  
4 service of Philippine Air Force Aviation Cadets. This Act shall be known as *the*  
5 *“Philippine Air Force Academy Act of 2011.”*  
6

7           **SEC. 2.    Administration.** – The Academy as herein established shall be  
8 organized and administered by the Commanding General, Philippine Air Force (PAF),  
9 under the general supervision and control of the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the  
10 Philippines.  
11

12           **SEC. 3.    Academic Board.** - The Academic Board of the Academy shall be  
13 composed of the Superintendent, the Dean of the Corps of Professors, the Commandant of  
14 Cadets and the Heads of the Departments to be constituted as follows:

15           (a) The Superintendent and the Commandant of Cadets and Officers Candidate of  
16 the Academy shall be detailed to those positions by the President from the  
17 officers of the Philippine Air Force; and

18           (b) The Dean of the Corps of Professors shall be appointed from the permanent  
19 professors who have served as heads of departments of instructions at the  
20 Academy.  
21

22           **SEC. 4.    Declaration of State Policy.** – It is hereby declared that the State  
23 shall promote multiple sourcing of regular officers of the AFP from diverse military  
24 training institutions of all the Branch of Services of the AFP. This State policy conforms  
25 to the policy of developing checks and balances in a democratic country like ours not only  
26 in the government bureaucracy but also in the defense and national security agencies.  
27

28           **SEC. 5.    Applicability.** - The provisions of this Act shall apply to the AFP  
29 insofar as to the establishment of the Philippine Air Force Academy; admission of cadets  
30 and officers candidate, who shall be known and called as Aviation Cadets and  
31 Probationary Officers, respectively; organization and administration of the Academy,  
32 appointment to the regular force as officers in the AFP from those who successfully  
33 complete the academic and officer training in the Academy; the composition of the Corps  
34 of Aviation Cadets and Officers Candidate; and composition of the Academic Board and  
35 Faculty members.  
36

1           **SEC. 6. Department Title and Faculty.**- The Chief of Staff of the Armed  
2 Forces of the Philippines may prescribe the titles of each of the departments of instruction  
3 and professor shall not affect the status, rank or eligibility for promotion or retirement of,  
4 or otherwise prejudice, a professor of the Academy.  
5

6           **SEC. 7. Definition of Terms.** For purposes of this Act, the following terms  
7 are hereby defined:  
8

- 9           a.     **Active Commissioned Service** – A period of the active service rendered by an  
10 individual as a commissioned officer.  
11           b.     **Aviation Cadet** – a cadet in the Philippine Air Force Academy who is being  
12 trained as an officer of the AFP as well as for baccalaureate degree specializing  
13 in the aviation fields.  
14           c.     **Officer Candidate** – a baccalaureate degree graduate qualified for commission  
15 under the provisions of law and is undergoing military training prior to the  
16 same.  
17           d.     **Commission** – a status conferred to an individual by the President of the  
18 Republic of the Philippines to serve as regular or reserve officer in the AFP.  
19           e.     **CACPAF** – Corps of Aviation Cadets Philippine Air Force, the student body  
20 comprising the undergraduate military training cadets of the PAFA.  
21           f.     **COCPAF** – Corps of Officers Candidate Philippine Air Force, the student body  
22 comprising the officers candidate training of the PAFA.  
23           g.     **First Captain** – the designation of the highest-ranking Aviation Cadet and  
24 Officer Candidate who will act as leader of the Corps of Aviation Cadets and  
25 Corps of Officers Candidate of the Philippine Air Force, respectively.  
26           h.     **CHED** – Commission on Higher Education of the Department of Education.  
27           i.     **PAFA** – Philippine Air Force Academy.  
28           j.     **Regular Officer** – a commissioned officer in the regular forces of the AFP  
29 appointed as such by the President of the Republic of the Philippines.  
30           k.     **Reserve Officer** – a commissioned officer in the Reserve Force of the AFP.  
31           l.     **Hazing** – For the purpose of this Act, "hazing" means any unauthorized  
32 assumption of authority by a cadet whereby another cadet suffers or is exposed  
33 to any form of injury, indignity, humiliation, hardship or oppression or the  
34 deprivation or abridgement of rights.

35  
36           **SEC. 8. Philippine Air Force Academy (PAFA)** – There shall be established in the  
37 Philippine Air Force an educational institution to be known as the Philippine Air Force  
38 Academy (PAFA), hereinafter referred to as the Academy.  
39

40           (a) **Fifteen-month Transitory Program** - For the first five (5) years of the  
41 implementation of this Act, there shall be a fifteen-month intensive military officer training  
42 program for aviation cadets. Cadets under this program should be a graduate of at least a  
43 four-year baccalaureate degree, and possess such other requirements that the Academy  
44 may impose.  
45

46           (b) **Four-year Baccalaureate Degree on Aero Engineering** – On the sixth (6<sup>th</sup>)  
47 year of this Act, the Academy shall accept its first batch of candidates for the four-year  
48 Baccalaureate Degree on Aero Engineering. Aviation cadets should at least be high school  
49 graduates, and possess such other requirements that the Academy may impose.  
50

51           The present PAF Officer Candidate School/PAF Regular Officer Procurement  
52 Program (PAFROPP) facilities shall be absorbed by the Academy including equipment,  
53 facilities, school grounds and applicable members of the faculty and administrative  
54 personnel, as the case maybe.  
55

1           **SEC. 9.       *Corps of Aviation Cadets Philippine Air Force.*** (CACPAF) - One  
2 student body of the Academy shall be known as the Corps of Aviation Cadets Philippine  
3 Air Force (CACPAF). The President shall be authorized to appoint annually, subject to  
4 such physical and mental examinations as may be prescribed, the number of aviation  
5 cadets necessary to maintain the Corps of Aviation Cadets at a strength of one hundred  
6 twenty (120) and not to exceed two hundred fifty (250) at any one time.

7  
8           The strength of the Corps of Aviation Cadets Philippine Air Force shall be  
9 maintained by the annual appointment of Aviation Cadets composed of, as follows:

- 10           a)     Not more than twenty percent (20%) selected based on order of merit, as  
11                 established by competitive examination, from the children of members  
12                 of the Armed Forces who:  
13  
14                 i)     Were killed in action or died of wounds or injuries received or  
15                 diseases contracted in or pre-existing injury or disease aggravated by  
16                 active service; or  
17                 ii)    Were awarded the Medal of Valor for an act performed while  
18                 serving in the Armed Forces.

19  
20                         For the purpose of this act, a determination by the Line of Duty  
21                         Board of the major services that a death is service-connected is binding  
22                         upon the Secretary of the National Defense.

- 23           b)     Not more than ten percent (10%) selected based on order of merit, as  
24                 established by competitive examination, from the enlisted members of  
25                 the Armed Forces;  
26           c)     Not more than ten percent (10%) selected based on order of merit, as  
27                 established by competitive examination, from the reserve component of  
28                 the Armed Forces;  
29           d)     Not more than ten percent (10%) selected based on order of merit, as  
30                 established by competitive examination, from the cultural communities  
31                 as may be selected by the President; and  
32           e)     The remaining number from the Philippines at large, selected based on  
33                 order of merit, as established by competitive examination.

34  
35           **SEC. 10.       *Corps of Officers Candidate.*** - Another student body of the  
36 Academy shall be known as the Corps of Officers Candidate Philippine Air Force  
37 (COCPAF). The President shall be authorized to appoint annually, subject to such  
38 physical and mental examinations as may be prescribed, the number of officers candidate  
39 necessary to maintain the Corps of Officers Candidate at a strength of sixty (60) and not to  
40 exceed one hundred twenty (120) at any one time.

41  
42           The strength of the Corps of Officers Candidate Philippine Air Force shall be  
43 maintained by the annual appointment of Officers Candidate composed of, as follows:

- 44           a)     Not more than twenty percent (20%) selected based on order of merit, as  
45                 established by competitive examination, from the children of members of the  
46                 Armed Forces who:  
47  
48                 i)     Were killed in action or died of wounds or injuries received or  
49                 diseases contracted in or pre-existing injury or disease aggravated by  
50                 active service; or  
51                 ii)    Were awarded the Medal of Valor for an act performed while  
52                 serving in the Armed Forces.

53  
54                         For the purpose of this act, a determination by the Line of Duty  
55                         Board of the major services that a death is service-connected is binding  
56                         upon the Secretary of the National Defense.

- 1 b) Not more than ten percent (10%) selected based on order of merit, as
- 2 established by competitive examination, from the qualified enlisted
- 3 members of the Armed Forces;
- 4 c) Not more than ten percent (10%) selected based on order of merit, as
- 5 established by competitive examination, from the reserve component of
- 6 the Armed Forces;
- 7 d) Not more than ten percent (10%) selected based on order of merit, as
- 8 established by competitive examination, from the qualified cultural
- 9 communities as may be selected by the President; and
- 10 e) The remaining number from the Philippines at large, selected based on
- 11 order of merit, as established by competitive examination.
- 12

13 **SEC. 11. Eligibility for Admission.** - To be eligible for admission, a candidate  
14 must be:

- 15 1) Single and must never have been married;
- 16 2) Natural-born citizen of the Philippines;
- 17 3) At least seventeen (17) years of age but not more than twenty-two (22) on
- 18 the first day of April of the year of admission of Aviation Cadets;
- 19 4) At least Eighteen (18) years of age but not more than twenty-three (23)
- 20 years of age on the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January of the year of admission of Officers
- 21 Candidate;
- 22 5) For Aviation Cadets, have completed high school and passed the National
- 23 Collegiate Admission Examination;
- 24 6) For Officers Candidate, have completed a four-year baccalaureate degree
- 25 obtained from any government-recognized and accredited educational
- 26 institution;
- 27 7) Have passed the competitive national examination given for the purpose;
- 28 8) Have passed the physical examination and psychological tests to be given
- 29 by competent authorities of the Philippine Air Force;
- 30

31 The Academy shall provide for educational and physical facilities for the  
32 recruitment and training of women as members of the Corps of Aviation Cadets.

33 Women shall be admitted and shall comprise not more than fifteen percent (15%)  
34 of the strength of both the Corps of Aviation Cadets and Corps of Officers Candidate at  
35 any time.

37 All Aviation Cadets and Officers Candidate shall be appointed by the President. An  
38 appointment is conditional until the cadet is admitted.

40 Cadets or students from other Philippine military institutions maybe admitted to the  
41 Academy depending on the prescribed quota set forth by the PAF provided that these  
42 cadets or students must have completed any four year baccalaureate degree course. These  
43 cadets or students, however, will no longer take the competitive nationwide examinations  
44 except that they must pass the physical and psychological examinations provided for. Upon  
45 entry into the Academy these cadets or students shall be absorbed and appointed as  
46 Aviation Cadets. Commissionship in the AFP for these cadets or students shall be subject  
47 to the requirements for commission of graduates of the Academy.

49 If it is to be determined that, upon the admission of a new class to the Academy, the  
50 number of aviation cadets at the Academy will be below the authorized number, the Chief  
51 of Staff may nominate, as may be qualified, alternates and are recommended and found  
52 qualified by the Faculty as are necessary to meet the needs of the Air Force, but not more  
53 than the authorized strength of the Corps of Aviation Cadets.

55 **SEC. 12. Academic Courses.** - a) There will be no academic breaks except on  
56 legal and national holidays. Nothing prevents the Academy from inviting instructors,  
57 professors and other experts from the aviation industry and from other schools. The

1 Academy shall be manned and equipped with the necessary faculty, expertise, equipment  
2 and facilities from existing national agencies, and shall be authorized to have agreements  
3 with schools, colleges, and universities to augment its capabilities and to hire civilian  
4 professors to man professorial chairs. All these personnel shall be subject to DND, AFP  
5 and Academy rules and regulations, whichever may be applicable.  
6

7 b) The Superintendent of the Academy shall recommend to the Chief of Staff,  
8 AFP, individuals who shall be designated or commissioned as members of the Corps of  
9 Professors. Applicable laws, rules and regulations governing the appointment and  
10 commission in the Corps of Professors shall apply.  
11

12 **SEC. 13. *Organization of the Corps of Aviation Cadet.*** The Corps of  
13 Aviation Cadets of the Philippine Air Force as well as the Corps of Officers Candidate  
14 shall be organized along the lines of the PAF organizations. Both Corps shall each have a  
15 First Captain appointed by the Superintendent of the Academy from among the most  
16 qualified Aviation Cadets and Officers Candidate, respectively. Both Corps shall be  
17 bound by the honor code of conduct which shall be used to govern the behavior of each  
18 and every individual in addition to the established AFP rules and regulations.  
19

20 **SEC. 14. *Pay and Allowances.*** - The pay and allowances of the Aviation  
21 Cadets and Officers Candidate shall be fixed by the President.  
22

23 **SEC. 15. *Undertaking.*** - Each Aviation Cadet or Officer Candidate shall sign  
24 an agreement that, unless sooner separated by duly authorized authorities, he shall:

- 25 1) Complete the course of instruction at the Academy;
- 26 2) Accept an appointment and serve as a commissioned officer of the Armed  
27 Forces of the Philippines for at least eight (8) years immediately after  
28 graduation from the Academy. Entry into the Academy shall be on the 1<sup>st</sup>  
29 day of April for Aviation Cadets and the 2<sup>nd</sup> day of January every year.  
30 Graduates from both training Corps shall be on last week of March every  
31 year and shall be considered one class, subject to an order of merit set by  
32 the IRR of this Act.  
33

34 **SEC. 16. *Aviation Cadet and Officer Candidate Retirement.*** -Any Aviation  
35 Cadet or Officer Candidate, who shall, after entrance to the Academy and before  
36 completion of prescribed courses of training, be found physically or mentally unfit for  
37 military assignment by reason of injury or disease incidental to the service, shall be retired  
38 with the rank of second lieutenant of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.  
39

40 **SEC. 17. *Commission.*** - Upon satisfactory completion of the course of  
41 instruction at the Academy, the Aviation Cadets and Officers Candidate shall be  
42 commissioned as second lieutenants and incorporated among each other in the Regular  
43 Force of the Armed Forces of the Philippines with the relative rank in the order of final  
44 general standing set by the IRR of this Act.

45 **SEC. 18. *Prohibition against Hazing.*** - Subject to the approval of the  
46 Secretary of National Defense, the Superintendent of the Academy shall issue rules and  
47 regulations preventing hazing and prescribe dismissal, suspension and other adequate  
48 punishment for violation thereof.  
49

50  
51 If an Aviation Cadet or Officer Candidate is charged with violating any rule or  
52 regulation issued pursuant to this Section, the penalty of which is dismissal from the  
53 Academy, a request in writing for a trial by a general court martial may be submitted.  
54

55 An Aviation Cadet or Officer Candidate dismissed from the Academy for hazing  
56 shall not be reappointed as an Aviation Cadet nor Officer Candidate and shall be ineligible

1 for appointment as a commissioned officer in the Armed Forces of the Philippines until  
2 after two (2) years from the graduation of his class.

3  
4 **SEC. 19. *Transfer of Assets and Liabilities.*** - The existing PAF Officer  
5 Candidate School/Regular Officer Procurement Program facilities including the members  
6 of faculty and personnel, records, equipment, assets and liabilities are hereby transferred to  
7 and integrated with the Philippine Air Force Academy. Similar assets necessary for  
8 training pilots now existing elsewhere in the AFP shall be transferred to the Air and  
9 Education Training Command.

10  
11 **SEC.20. *Implementing Rules and Regulation.*** - The Secretary of National  
12 Defense shall, within three (3) months after the approval of this Act, prescribe the  
13 implementing rules and regulations (IRR) necessary for the effective implementation of the  
14 provisions of this Act.

15  
16 **SEC. 21. *Funding*** – The initial appropriations for the establishment of the  
17 Academy shall be charged to the appropriation of the Academy, coursed through the  
18 Department of National Defense (DND). Two hundred forty-six million pesos  
19 (Php246,000,000.00) shall be allotted to establish the four-year baccalaureate degree in the  
20 Academy, which shall be released in five phases: one hundred sixty-seven million pesos  
21 (Php167,000,000.00) for the first (1<sup>st</sup>) year; forty-one million pesos (Php41,000,000.00) for  
22 the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) year; twenty-one million pesos (Php21,000,000.00) for the third (3<sup>rd</sup>) year;  
23 eight million, five hundred thousand pesos (Php8,500,000.00) for the fourth (4<sup>th</sup>) year; and  
24 eight million, five hundred thousand pesos (Php8,500,000.00) for the fifth (5<sup>th</sup>) year.  
25 These shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act (GAA).

26  
27 Thereafter, the amount necessary for the improvement, operation and maintenance  
28 of the Academy shall be included in the GAA.

29  
30 **SEC. 22. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision of this Act is held invalid, all  
31 the other provisions not affected hereby shall remain valid.

32  
33 **SEC. 23. *Transitory Provision.*** – All present First and Second Class  
34 Aerocadets of the Philippine Military Academy, upon graduation, shall be accepted to the  
35 Philippine Air Force. Thereafter, all the PAF officer requirements shall be provided by the  
36 PAFA and the Air Force ROTC through the Air Force Reserve Command.

37  
38 **SEC. 24. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following  
39 the completion of its publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general  
40 circulation.

41  
42 *Approved,*