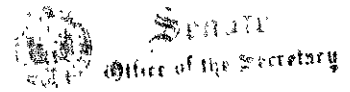



SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )



75 JAN -5 P3 51

SENATE  
S. No. 2545

RECEIVED BY: 

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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AN ACT  
INSTITUTING THE PRESIDENTIAL YOUTH ADVISOR COUNCIL

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 13 provides:

The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs.

Youth participation is “an ongoing process of children’s expression and active involvement in decision-making at different levels in matters that concern them. It requires information-sharing and dialogue between children and adults, based on mutual respect, and full consideration of children’s views in the light of their age and maturity.”<sup>1</sup>

The United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) enumerates why the State should encourage youth participation.<sup>2</sup> First, the youth have knowledge and opinions different from those that the adults assume they have. The adults assume what the youth think and want. These assumptions are sometimes false thus leading to erroneous approach on issues affecting the youth. Second, youth participation is a right. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child recognizes the right of the youth to express views on matters affecting them. The youth’s right to freedom of expression includes the freedom to seek, receive, and impart information and ideas. Third, the capacities of the

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<sup>1</sup> UNICEF, Handbook on Child Participation in Parliament, Handbook for Parliamentarians No. 18 -2011.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*

youth evolve. As a young individual grow older, his/her perspectives broaden thus “their capacity to take responsibility for decisions affecting their lives increases.”<sup>3</sup>

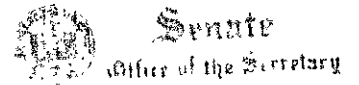
This bill seeks to promote youth participation by involving the youth in the policy-making process of the Executive branch. It aims to give them an opportunity to participate in issues directly affecting them by allowing them to discuss these with and suggest solutions to the Executive.

  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
RP

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<sup>3</sup> *Id*

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )



15 JAN -5 P3:51

SENATE  
S. No. 2545

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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

1 AN ACT  
2 INSTITUTING THE PRESIDENTIAL YOUTH ADVISOR COUNCIL

3 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as "Presidential Youth  
4 Advisor Council Act."

5 SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is the policy of the State to promote youth  
6 participation in the policy-making process of the government by giving them an  
7 opportunity to directly discuss issues and possible corresponding solutions with executive  
8 officials.

9 SECTION 3. *Presidential Youth Advisor Council.* - Immediately following the  
10 assumption of office of the President and every three years thereafter, there shall be  
11 selected young individuals who shall propose policies to the members of the Cabinet.  
12 This group of young individuals shall be called the Presidential Youth Advisor Council.

13 SECTION 4. *Youth Advisors.* - The youth advisors shall be of the same number as  
14 that of the members of the Cabinet. Each youth advisor shall be assigned to one Cabinet  
15 member to whom the former shall present the proposal. They shall be selected from a

1 pool of applicants by the National Youth Commission (NYC) who shall evaluate their  
2 proposals.

3 (A) Qualifications – A youth advisor:

- 4 a. must be at least 15 but not more than 24 years old;
- 5 b. must not have previously been a youth advisor;
- 6 c. must not be a relative within the fourth civil degree of an incumbent  
7 elected official; and
- 8 d. must have other qualifications set by the NYC

9 (B) Period – The Council shall be given a week to finalize the proposals and  
10 present them to the Cabinet members.

11 SECTION 5. *Honorarium.* – A youth advisor is entitled to receive a daily  
12 honorarium for a period of one week which is equivalent to 75% of the minimum wage in  
13 Metro Manila.

14 SECTION 6. *Implementing Agency.* – The NYC shall be the primary  
15 implementing and supervising agency for the implementation of this Act. It shall  
16 formulate the necessary implementing rules and regulations immediately upon the  
17 approval of this Act.

18 SECTION 7. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part hereof is held invalid  
19 or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall  
20 remain valid and subsisting.

21 SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance,  
22 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to,

1 or inconsistent with, the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended  
2 accordingly.

3 - SECTION 9. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect 15 days after its  
4 publication in at least two newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

/tmdp22Dec2014