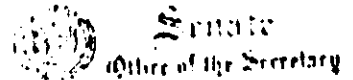


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Third Regular Session )



'16 JAN 13 P3:33

SENATE  
S. No. 3079

RECEIVED BY: *[Signature]*

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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AN ACT  
ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING PROGRAM  
FOR TEACHERS OF CHILDREN WITH HANDICAP

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 14, Section 2 (1) provides:

SEC. 2(1). The State shall establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society.

Health care has always been last among the priorities of many Filipino families. In many cases, a lot of our countrymen seek medical attention only if their condition is already at its worst.

Many children with handicaps are in regular education classrooms due to lack of special schools for them. As children with special needs are mainstreamed, it is critical that these children are placed in the least restrictive environment appropriate to their needs and that their teachers in regular classrooms have an understanding of their special needs.

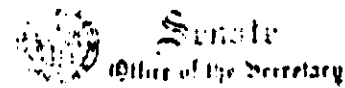
This bill seeks to establish a comprehensive training program for teachers of children with handicap.<sup>1</sup>

*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
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<sup>1</sup> This bill was originally filed in the Fourteenth Congress, Second Regular Session and refiled in the Fifteenth Congress, First Regular Session.

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FOR TEACHERS OF CHILDREN WITH HANDICAP

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

1 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Teachers of Children  
2 with Handicaps Enhancement Act.”

3 SECTION 2. *Program Authorized.* – The Secretary of Education is authorized to  
4 award grants in accordance with this Act to carry out activities and programs designed to  
5 increase the preparedness of mainstream classroom teachers for the preparation of  
6 children with handicaps in such classrooms through training programs.

7 SECTION 3. *Use of Funds.* – Funds provided pursuant to this Act shall be used to  
8 award grants to state universities which shall be required to put up special training  
9 program for teachers. The special programs shall consist of modules designed to increase  
10 the awareness of teachers of children with handicaps on the special nature of such  
11 children, with emphasis on their peculiar needs and to equip them with strategies on how  
12 to reach out to these children.

13 SECTION 4. *Special Program Curriculum.* – The Secretary of Education, in  
14 coordination with the Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education, shall  
15 prescribe the special program curriculum to be offered in state universities offering

1 training programs. The special program curriculum shall include special courses on child  
2 psychology, teach the substance and teaching skills associated with handling of children  
3 with handicaps, develop special materials and methods, conduct pilot and demonstration  
4 projects, and involve participation of experts in child psychology in the provision of  
5 special activities designed to enhance the teaching skills of teachers of children with  
6 handicaps.

7       SECTION 5. *Application Required.* – Each entity desiring a grant under this Act  
8 shall submit an application to the Secretary, at such time and in such manner  
9 accompanied by such information as the Secretary may reasonably require.

10       SECTION 6. *Appropriations.* – There shall be appropriated such sums as may be  
11 necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

12       SECTION 7. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid  
13 or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall  
14 remain valid and subsisting.

15       SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,  
16 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to  
17 or is inconsistent with the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended  
18 accordingly.

19       SECTION 9. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days  
20 following its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general  
21 circulation.

Approved,