

1538

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

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SENATE
S. B. No. 1238

RECEIVED BY: [Signature]

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 2, Section 17 provides:

The State shall give priority to education, science and technology, arts, culture and sports to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development.

Advances in science and mathematics depend on the quantity and quality of our country's mathematicians and scientists;

Specialized curriculum schools, such as the Philippine Science High School, have been very successful in producing leaders and scholars in the sciences. They promote excellence and have the potential to upgrade the quality of science programs within the broader school system.

There is a need to put up more specialized curriculum schools, if we are to pursue advances in science and mathematics in an overwhelming task for educational institutions, without the collaboration of the private sector and incentives from government.

Hence, this bill seeks to provide grants to business and education partnerships for the purpose of establishing and operating model high schools of science and mathematics.

Miriam Defensor Santiago

MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

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**PROVIDING GRANTS TO BUSINESS AND EDUCATION PARTNERSHIPS
FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING AND OPERATING MODEL HIGH
SCHOOLS OF SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS**

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title* – This Act shall be known as “The Model High Schools Act.”

SECTION 2. *Program authorized* –

(a) **IN GENERAL** – The Secretary, in consultation with the Director, is authorized to make not more than 10 grants to business and education partnerships as part of the government’s share of the costs of planning establishing and operating high schools of science and mathematics.

(b) **PROCEDURES AND CRITERIA** – The Secretary shall develop procedures and criteria for awarding grants under this part on a competitive merit basis.

SECTION 3. *Business and education partnership* – For the purpose of this Act, the term ‘business and education partnership’ means representatives of local educational institutions or consortia of local educational institutions which have entered into agreements with local or regional businesses, associations, non-profit organizations, and any other appropriate groups or individuals to plan, fund, and provide ongoing support for, a science and mathematics high school.

SECTION 4: *Application* –

(a) *IN GENERAL* – Each business and education partnership desiring a grant under this part shall submit an application at such time, in such manner, and accompanied by such information as the Secretary may reasonably require.

(b) *CONTENTS* – Each application submitted pursuant to subsection (a) shall describe –

- (1) the activities and services for which assistance is sought;
- (2) the business and education partnership;
- (3) where the school will be located, what areas will be served by the school, and a justification for selecting such areas;
- (4) the number of students who will attend the school;
- (5) the criteria for the selection of students;
- (6) the source of the non-government share the costs of establishing and operating the school;
- (7) the availability of qualified teachers or plans to provide appropriate in-service training for teachers;
- (8) the curriculum;
- (9) plans for any specialized opportunities for students; and
- (10) plans to provide enriched educational experiences for students who do not attend the school through summer programs and taped instructional material.

(c) *APPROVAL* – The Secretary shall appoint one or more technical review panels, consisting of scientists and mathematics from universities, professional or scientific associations, government agencies, secondary school administrators and teachers familiar with science and mathematics training and issues, and representatives of business to –

- (1) establish competitive selection criteria based on the application contents described in subsection (b);
- (2) select and approve applications under this part based on the selection criteria established pursuant to paragraph (1) and
- (3) make recommendations to the Secretary regarding the awarding of grants under this part.

(d) *SPECIAL RULE* – The Secretary shall only award grants under this part to applicants that demonstrate in their application a commitment to continue the operation of the high school of science and mathematics after the termination of assistance provided under this part.

(e) *EQUITABLE DISTRIBUTION* – Each panel described in subsection (c) shall make recommendation to the Secretary regarding the awarding of grants under this part that assure an equitable geographic distribution of high schools of science and mathematics throughout the Philippines.

SECTION 5. *Payments-*

(a) *PAYMENTS* – The Secretary shall pay to each business and education partnership having an application approved under section 4 as part of the government's share of the costs of the activities described in the application.

(b) *GOVERNMENT SHARE* – The government share –

(1) for the first 4 years for which a business and education partnership receives a grant under this part shall be 50 percent; and

(2) for the fifth and sixth such years shall be 25 percent.

(c) *NON-GOVERNMENT SHARE* – The non-government share of payments under this part may be in cash or in kind fairly evaluated, including planned equipment or services, equipment loans or donations, cooperative use of laboratories, plants and other facilities, relevant work experience opportunities for students, or time donated for teaching or mentoring.

SECTION 6. *EVALUATION.*

(a) *DATA* – The Secretary shall specify data that shall be collected and submitted to the Secretary by each business and education partnership receiving a grant under this part over the period of the grant. Such data shall include a wide range of measures of student achievement, and comparisons of student achievement in the school assisted under this part with student achievement in the local area in the country.

(b) *REPORT* – (1) The Secretary shall annually submit a report to the Congress on the effectiveness of the schools assisted under this Act.

(2) Each business and education partnership receiving a grant under this part shall submit a report to the Secretary within 6 years of the date of enactment of this Act describing in detail

the program assisted under this part, the history of such program's development, and the costs for such program to serve as a blueprint for future high schools of science and mathematics. The Secretary shall distribute such report to all local educational institutions.

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

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

SECTION 9. *Effectivity Clause* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.