



SENATE

S. No. 1413

INTRODUCED BY SENATORS LACSON, DRILON AND ZUBIRI

AN ACT RECOGNIZING EVEREST ACADEMY AS AN
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF INTERNATIONAL
CHARACTER, GRANTING CERTAIN PREROGATIVES
TO HASTEN ITS GROWTH AS SUCH, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

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

1 SECTION 1. Everest Academy, herein referred to as
2 the School, is hereby declared an educational institution of
3 international character authorized to operate educational
4 programs that primarily and principally adhere to
5 universally accepted and recognized educational policies.

6 SEC. 2. Everest International Academy shall be the
7 registered name of the School and shall have as its
8 members the school management and the parents or

guardians, whether of Philippine or foreign nationality, of the children who have enrolled and attended the School for at least one (1) school year: *Provided*, That the school year shall be determined in accordance with the school's own calendar of studies and work schedule: *Provided, further*, That the school shall be governed by a Board of Trustees, herein referred to as the "Board", elected at large from among the corporation's members of good standing.

SEC. 3. To enable the school to continue carrying out its educational program, improve its standard of instruction and meet the special needs of the foreign temporary resident community for quality education, it shall:

(a) Be able to accept provisions and donations of every kind to carry out the purposes of the Everest International Academy and be entitled to use properties, real or personal, so donated and to construct and own buildings thereon exclusively for educational purposes: *Provided*, That for any reason, Everest International Academy, ceases to occupy and/or use real properties it

1 may acquire by virtue of this Act, the properties and all
2 improvements thereon of permanent nature shall accrue to
3 the Government of the Republic of the Philippines;

4 (b) Whenever necessary to carry out its objectives,
5 have the right to obtain leases on real properties, acquire
6 personal properties, tangible or intangible, or any interests
7 in such properties other than real, by purchase, lease,
8 barter, donation, gift or otherwise, and dispose of,
9 mortgage or encumber them for the benefit of the school
10 concerned;

11 (c) Accept applicants for admission in accordance
12 with its own eligibility standards, and rules for admission
13 and grade placement: *Provided*, That no group of aliens
14 shall comprise more than one-third (1/3) of its enrollment
15 in any given school year consistent with Section 4(2),
16 Article XIV of the Constitution;

17 (d) Be managed and administered by a
18 President/Principal/Executive Director, who shall be a
19 Filipino citizen and possess the qualifications prescribed by
20 the Board;

1 (e) Upon consultation with the Secretary of
2 Education, determine its own curriculum and teach
3 whatever language or languages it may deem proper and
4 determine the amount of fees and assessments which may
5 be reasonably imposed upon its pupils and/or students, to
6 maintain or conform to Everest International Academy's
7 standard of education;

8 (f) Maintain the international standards of
9 education compatible with those obtained in similar
10 schools of generally recognized standing; and,

11 (g) Employ its own teaching and management
12 personnel selected by the Board either locally or abroad,
13 from the Philippines or other countries or nationalities,
14 such foreign personnel being exempt from laws that impose
15 nationality restrictions on control and administration of
16 educational institutions, except laws that have been or will
17 be enacted for the protection of employees: *Provided*, That
18 such exemption shall not extend to their liability for
19 income taxes, unless otherwise provided by a bilateral
20 agreement;

1 (h) Promote international friendship, goodwill and
2 understanding among members of the foreign community
3 and citizens of the Philippines; and

4 (i) Not to teach anything derogatory to the prestige
5 and well-being of the Philippines and its people, nor those
6 which will subvert its institutions and government.

7 SEC. 4. The Secretary of Education, in consultation
8 with the members of the Board of the Everest
9 International Academy, shall issue such rules as may be
10 necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

11 SEC. 5. If any clause, sentence, paragraph or part of
12 this Act is subsequently declared unconstitutional, the
13 validity of the remaining provisions hereof shall remain in
14 full force and effect.

15 SEC. 6. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
16 after its publication in the *Official Gazette*.

Approved,