



SENATE

S. No. 1669

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INTRODUCED BY SENATORS SOTTO III AND LACSON

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AN ACT RECOGNIZING FAITH ACADEMY AS AN  
EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF INTERNATIONAL  
CHARACTER AND PROVIDING FOR MECHANISMS  
ON THE GRANT OF CERTAIN PREROGATIVES  
CONDUCTIVE TO ITS GROWTH

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

1           SECTION 1. Faith Academy, operated by Faith  
2 Academy, Inc., is hereby declared and officially recognized  
3 as an educational institution of international character  
4 authorized to operate educational programs that primarily  
5 and principally adhere to universally accepted and  
6 recognized educational policies.

7           SEC. 2. Faith Academy, herein referred to as the  
8 "Academy", was established by religious groups and  
9 mission boards and shall be governed by a Board of

1 Trustees, herein referred to as the "Board", elected in  
2 accordance with its corporate charter.

3 The Academy, having been established primarily for  
4 foreign missionary personnel and their dependents and for  
5 other temporary residents, shall be covered by the  
6 exemptions provided in Section 4 (2), Article XIV of the  
7 Constitution of the Philippines.

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

13 (a) Accept applicants for admission, regardless of  
14 nationality, in accordance with its own eligibility  
15 standards and rules for admission and grade placement;

16 (b) Be managed and administered by a Head of  
17 School, who shall possess the qualifications prescribed by  
18 the Board;

19 (c) Be able to accept provisions and donations of  
20 every kind to carry out the purposes of the Academy and be

1 entitled to use properties, real or personal, so donated and  
2 to construct and own buildings thereon exclusively for  
3 educational purposes;

4 Whenever necessary to carry out its objectives, allow  
5 the Christian Education Assistance Foundation (CEAF),  
6 the owner of the Academy's properties, the right to obtain  
7 leases on real properties, acquire personal properties,  
8 tangible or intangible, or any interests in such properties  
9 other than real, by purchase, lease, barter, donation, gift or  
10 otherwise, and dispose of, mortgage or encumber them for  
11 the benefit of the Academy.

12 (d) Upon consultation with the Secretary of  
13 Education, determine its own basic education curriculum,  
14 calendar of studies, and work schedule, and teach  
15 whatever language or languages it may deem appropriate  
16 and determine the reasonable amount of fees and  
17 assessments which shall be imposed upon its students and  
18 the compensation of its teachers, consultants, employees  
19 and necessary personnel to maintain and conform to the  
20 Academy's standard of education;

1 (e) Maintain standards of education compatible with  
2 those obtaining in similar schools of generally recognized  
3 standing;

4 (f) Contract its own teaching and management  
5 personnel selected by the Academy's administration either  
6 locally or abroad, from the Philippines or other  
7 nationalities; such foreign personnel being exempt from  
8 laws that impose nationality restrictions on control and  
9 administration of educational institutions, except laws that  
10 have been or will be enacted for the protection of  
11 employees: *Provided*, That such exemption shall not extend  
12 to their liability from income taxes; and

13 (g) Be granted benefits and privileges under the law  
14 as a non-stock, non-profit educational institution.

15 SEC. 4. Foreign scholars, trainees, participants,  
16 students, volunteers, fellows or professors appointed,  
17 selected, hired, employed, contracted or otherwise by the  
18 Academy shall be allowed entry as special non-immigrants  
19 under Section 47 (a) (2) of the "Philippine Immigration Act  
20 of 1940", as amended, and as such shall be exempted from

1 the payment of visa and immigration fees: *Provided*, That  
2 such persons are holders of valid passports and are not  
3 otherwise disqualified from.

4 SEC. 5. The Secretary of Education, in consultation  
5 with the Academy and the members of the Board, shall  
6 formulate the rules and regulations implementing the  
7 provisions of this Act.

8 SEC. 6. If any provision of this Act is held invalid or  
9 unconstitutional, the other provisions not so declared shall  
10 remain in force and effect.

11 SEC. 7. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days  
12 after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a  
13 newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,