

SENATE
S. B. No. **1508**

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SECTION 7. *Separability Clause.* – If any provisions, or part hereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 8. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulations contrary to or inconsistent with, the provisions 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.