EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session

SENATE S.B. NO. <u>964</u>

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Senate Office of the Secretary

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Introduced by Senator Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay

AN ACT

ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING PROGRAM FOR TEACHERS OF CHILDREN WITH HANDICAPS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XIV, Section 2 (1) of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides:

"Establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society."

Education is a key foundation towards the growth and success of every individual. Undeniably, teachers play an extraordinary part in the lives of the children with handicap. Thus, major efforts should be undertaken to give our teachers adequate training in order to ensure quality education.

The proposed bill seeks to establish a comprehensive training program for teachers of children with handicap.

In view of the foregoing, the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.

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MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY Senator

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AN ACT

ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING PROGRAM FOR TEACHERS OF CHILDREN WITH HANDICAPS

Be it enacted by the Senate and 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."

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Sec. 2. *Program Authorized.* – The Secretary of Education is authorized to award 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 program.

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Sec. 3. *Use of Funds.* – Funds provided pursuant to this Act shall be used to award grants to state universities which shall be required to put up special training programs for teachers. The special programs shall consist of modules designed to increase 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.

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17 Sec. 4. *Special Program Curriculum.* – The Secretary of Education, in 18 coordination with the Chairperson of the Commission on Higher Education, shall

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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.

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9 Sec. 5. *Application Required*. – Each entity desiring a grant under this Act 10 shall submit an application to the Secretary, at such time and in such manner 11 accompanied by such information as the Secretary may reasonably require.

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13 Sec. 6. *Appropriations.* – There shall be appropriated such sums as may 14 be necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

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Sec. 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 subsisting.

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

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25 Sec. 9. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days 26 after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general 27 circulation.

Approved,

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