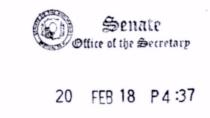
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES

First Regular Session



SENATE

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RECEIVED 3Y:

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. <u>51</u>

Submitted jointly by the Committees on Basic Education, Arts and Culture; Youth; Ways and Means; and Finance on FEB 18 2020.

Re: Senate Bill No. 1365.

Recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill No. 740.

Sponsor: Win Gatchalian

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committees on Basic Education, Arts and Culture; Youth; Ways and Means; and Finance to which was referred **Senate Bill No. 740**, introduced by Senators Win Gatchalian and Maria Lourdes Nancy S. Binay, entitled:

"AN ACT

PROVIDING FOR THE ALTERNATIVE LEARNING SYSTEM OF EDUCATION FOR ADULTS, OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH, MEMBERS OF CULTURAL MINORITIES, INDIGENOUS PEOPLE, AND PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES" have considered the same and have the honor to report it back to the Senate with the recommendation that the attached **Senate Bill No**. 1365, prepared by the Committees, entitled:

"AN ACT

INSTITUTIONALIZING THE ALTERNATIVE LEARNING SYSTEM IN BASIC EDUCATION FOR OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH, ADULTS, AND CHILDREN IN SPECIAL EXTREME CASES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR"

be approved in substitution of Senate Bill No. 740 with Senators Gatchalian and Binay as authors thereof.

Respectfully submitted:

Chairpersons

\$F WIN GATCHALIAN

Committee on Basic Education, Arts and Culture Vice Chairperson, Committee on Finance Member, Committee on Ways and Means

SEN. SONNY ANGARA Committees on Finance; and Youth Vice-Chairperson, Committee on Ways and Means

SEN. PIA S. CAYETANO

Committee on Ways and Means Vice-Chairperson, Committee on Finance Member, Committee on Basic Education, Arts and Culture

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SEN. PANFILO M. LACSON

Committee on Finance Member, Committees on Basic Education, Arts and Culture; and Ways and Means

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SEN. IMEE R. MARCOS Committees on Finance; and Youth Member, Committees on Basic Education, Arts and Culture; and Ways and Means

SEN. JOEF/VILLANUEVA Committees on Basic Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance Member, Committee on Youth

SEN. CHRISTOPHER BONG GO

Committee on Finance Member, Committees on Basic Education, Arts and Culture; Ways and Means; and Youth

SEN. RICHARD J. GORDON

Committee on Finance Member, Committees on Basic Education, Arts and Culture; and Ways and Means

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SEN. RISA HONTIVEROS

Committee on Finance Member, Committees on Basic Education, Arts and Culture; and Ways and Means

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SEN. RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR. Committees on Basic Education, Arts and Culture; Ways and Means; and Finance

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Committees on Basic Education, Arts and Culture; and Finance

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SEN. FRANCES N. PANGILINAN Committees on Basic Education, Arts and Culture; Ways and Means; and Finance



SEN MANUEL "LITC M. LAPID Committees on Basic Education, Arts and Culture; Ways and Means; and Finance



SEN. LEILA M. DE LIMA

Committees on Basic Education, Arts and Culture; Ways and Means; Youth and Finance Committees on Youth; Finance; and Ways and Means

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SEN. RALPH G. RECT

President Pro-Tempore

SEN. JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI Majority Leader

SEN. FRANKLIN M. DRILON Minority Leader

HON. VICENTE C. SOTTO III

Senate President



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SENATE

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RECEIVED BY:

S.B. No. <u>1365</u> (In Substitution of S.B. No. 740)

Prepared by the Committee on Basic Education, Arts and Culture joint with the Committees on Youth, Ways and Means, and Finance, with Senators Gatchalian and Binay as authors thereof.

AN ACT

INSTITUTIONALIZING THE ALTERNATIVE LEARNING SYSTEM IN BASIC EDUCATION FOR OUT-OF-SCHOOL YOUTH, ADULTS, AND CHILDREN IN SPECIAL EXTREME CASES AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

Section 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "Alternative Learning
 System Act".

3

Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the State to promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all. The State shall likewise give the highest priority to the enactment of measures that promote human development and the acceleration of social progress, thereby reducing social, economic, and political inequalities.

Towards this end, the State shall provide the out-of-school youth, adults, and children in special extreme cases with opportunities to improve their knowledge, values, other life skills, and readiness for higher education, work or self-employment through a system of non-formal, informal, and/or indigenous education which are tailored to respond to their learning needs and life circumstances. The State shall also ensure the close partnership and collaboration between the government and the 1 private sector in achieving this goal.

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3

Sec. 3. *Objectives.* – This Act aims to achieve the following objectives:

a) Provide adequate, timely and quality attention and support to the basic
learning needs of out-of-school youth, adults, and children in special extreme cases;

b) Guarantee equitable opportunity for all learners, including those who reside
in the unreached, underserved, conflict-affected communities, and communities in
emergencies to avail of systematic and appropriate alternative basic education
programs outside of the formal school system;

10 c) Promote lifelong learning anchored on the Alternative Learning System (ALS) 11 K to 12 Basic Education Curriculum (BEC) that takes a holistic, integrated and inter-12 sectoral approach, and provide pathways across modes of learning that will ensure 13 that learners will become caring, self-reliant, independent, productive, and patriotic 14 citizens, by allowing such learners to pursue further education or seek employment 15 after participating in the ALS program and passing the accreditation and equivalency 16 assessment;

d) Hire, capacitate, and deploy ALS teachers to implement a range of ALS programs especially in far-flung, unserved, underserved, conflict-affected communities, and communities in emergencies;

e) Design specialized programs for persons with disabilities, taking into consideration their different levels of learning needs and other functional difficulties in the development of instructional materials and learning modules in accessible format;

f) Develop, integrate, and utilize informal education approaches and strategies in the delivery of the ALS program and the assessment of learning outcomes and competencies of ALS learners by providing flexibility in the duration of learning programs, learning contents, and delivery strategies, among others;

g) Improve access to education and other learning opportunities and raise the
 level of literacy to contribute to an individual's sustainable future; and

h) Strengthen non-formal basic education programs but ensure support to the
 policy of the Department of Education (DepEd) that school age children and youth
 should be enrolled in formal education, and that they should be able to return to the

1 formal education system in the event that they drop out.

23

Sec. 4. Definition of Terms. – For purposes of this Act:

a) Accreditation and Equivalency Assessment and Certification or A&E
Assessment and Certification is a process in ALS that comprises an exam and
other assessments deemed appropriate and anchored on the competencies of
the ALS K to 12 BEC.

b) Accreditation and Equivalency Program is a program aimed at providing an
alternative pathway of learning for out-of-school youth, adults, and children in
special extreme cases who are literate and have not completed basic
education. Through this program, school dropouts are able to complete
elementary and secondary education outside the formal school system.

13 c) *Adult* refers to a person at least eighteen (18) years of age and above.

d) *ALS K to 12 Basic Education Curriculum* or *ALS K to 12 BEC* refers to the architectural blueprint indicating the competency, content, key stages, and standards for the ALS program under this Act. The ALS K to 12 BEC is benchmarked on the DepEd K to 12 formal school curriculum and focuses on the 21st Century Skills: Information, Media and Technology Skills, Learning and Innovation Skills, Communication Skills, and Life and Career Skills.

e) *Basic Education* refers to education intended to meet the basic learning needs which provide the foundation on which subsequent learning can be based. It encompasses early childhood, kindergarten, elementary and secondary education as well as alternative learning systems for out-of-school learners and those with special needs.

f) *Basic Literacy Program* refers to the program component of ALS that is aimed
 at eradicating illiteracy among out-of-school youth and adults by developing
 basic literacy skills of reading, writing, and numeracy.

28 g) *Children* refer to persons under eighteen (18) years of age.

h) *Children in Special Extreme Cases* refer to those under the age of eighteen
(18) and who have been deprived of access to formal basic education due to
economic, geographic, political, cultural, and social barriers, such as persons
with disabilities, indigenous peoples, children in conflict with the law, learners

in emergencies, and other marginalized sectors of society.

i) Indigenous Peoples refer to a group of people or homogenous societies 2 identified by self-ascription and ascription by others, who have continuously 3 lived as organized community on communally bounded and defined territory, 4 and who have, under claims of ownership since time immemorial, occupied, 5 possessed and utilized such territories, sharing common bonds of language, 6 customs, tradition and other distinctive cultural traits or who have, through 7 resistance to political, social and cultural inroads of colonization became 8 historically-differentiated from the majority of the Filipinos. 9

j) Indigenous Peoples Education refers to the program that supports education 10 initiatives undertaken through formal, non-formal, and informal modalities with 11 emphasis on any of, but not limited to, the key areas of indigenous knowledge 12 systems and practices and community history, indigenous languages, 13 indigenous learning system (ILS) and community life cycle-based curriculum 14 and assessment, educational goals, aspirations and competencies specific to 15 the indigenous cultural community (ICC), engagement of elders and other 16 community members in the teaching-learning process, assessment, and 17 management of the initiative, recognition and continuing practice of the 18 community's ILS, and the rights and responsibilities of ICCs. 19

k) *Informal Education* refers to diverse forms of learning that are intentional or
deliberate but are not institutionalized. Informal education is less organized and
structured than either formal or non-formal education. It is a lifelong process
of learning by which every person acquires and accumulates knowledge, skills,
attitudes and insights from daily experiences at home, at work, at play and
from life itself.

Lifelong Learning refers to all learning activities undertaken throughout life
 for the development of competencies and qualifications. Adult learning and
 education, technical-vocational education or training, and literacy are all
 significant components of the lifelong learning process. It is rooted in the
 integration of learning and living. It covers learning activities for people of all
 ages in all life-wide contexts, such as family, school, community, and
 workplace, and through a variety of modalities, whether formal, non-formal,

and informal, which together meet a wide range of learning needs and demands.

m) *Microcertification,* also known as micro-credentialing, is a process where learners can gain credits when they satisfy a cluster of pre-determined tasks, activities, competencies or requirements, leading towards achieving the credit requirements for A&E certification.

n) *Non-Formal Education* or *NFE* refers to any organized and systematic
 educational activity carried outside the framework of the formal education
 system to provide selected types of learning to a segment of the population.

o) *Out-of-School Youth* or *OSY,* for purposes of this Act, shall refer to persons
 aged fifteen (15) to thirty (30) years old who did not finish basic education and
 are not enrolled in school.

p) *Persons with Disabilities* refer to those who have long-term physical, mental,
 intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers
 may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis
 with others.

q) *Private Sector* includes non-governmental organizations or associations, civil
 society organizations, or individuals.

r) *Recognition of ALS Providers* is the process by which the DepEd acknowledges and validates potential partners from the private sector in the delivery of ALS programs. The process lays out a set of standards of service delivery, as well as a system of rewards and incentives, to ensure quality delivery of ALS programs.

24

Sec. 5. *The Alternative Learning System.* – The Alternative Learning
 System is a parallel learning system that provides a viable alternative to the existing
 formal education instruction. It encompasses both non-formal and informal sources of
 knowledge and skills.

The ALS is hereby institutionalized to strengthen and expand the ALS program under Republic Act No. 10533 or the "Enhanced Basic Education Act of 2013" and provide increased opportunities for out-of-school youth, adults, and children in special extreme cases to develop basic and functional literacy, life skills, and pursue an

equivalent pathway to complete basic education. It covers those who have been 1 deprived of access to formal basic education due to economic, geographic, political, 2 cultural, and social barriers, including persons with disabilities, indigenous peoples, 3 children in conflict with the law, learners in emergencies, persons deprived of liberty, 4 migrant workers, and other marginalized sectors of society. 5

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Sec. 6. Bureau of Alternative Education (BAE). - The Bureau of 7 Alternative Education (BAE) shall be created to serve as the focal office for the 8 implementation of the ALS programs of the DepEd. It shall be headed by a Director 9 IV who shall be under the supervision of the Secretary of Education. 10

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Sec. 7. Powers and Functions of the BAE. - The BAE shall have the following powers and functions: 13

- a) Establish minimum quality standards in the development of the ALS 14 curriculum and learning materials, program planning, implementation, 15 monitoring, evaluation, and management, including recognition of service 16 providers, competency standards for ALS personnel, and requirements for 17 ALS learning environments, among others, to help promote assurance of 18 the program; 19
- b) Promote and ensure the certification and accreditation of learners through 20 alternative learning programs, both non-formal and informal in nature, as 21 anchored on the competencies of the ALS K to 12 BEC; 22
- c) In partnership with other government agencies, local government units 23 (LGUs), and the private sector, ensure access to educational opportunities 24 for learners of different interests, learning needs, capabilities, demographic 25 characteristics, and socioeconomic status, who have been unable to 26 complete formal basic education; 27
- d) Coordinate with various agencies and industries for skills development to 28 promote the learners' employability, efficiency, productivity, and 29 competitiveness in the labor market, as well as assist the learners to 30 become entrepreneurs; 31
- e) Coordinate, encourage close partnerships, and establish linkages with LGUs 32

1	and the private sector on matters pertaining to the sustainable
2	implementation of ALS programs, post-program support activities and
3	community mapping, and manage nationwide database for out-of-school
4	youth, adults, and children in special extreme cases; and
5	f) Such other powers and functions as may be necessary for the effective and
6	efficient implementation of ALS programs, projects, and activities.
7	
8	Sec. 8. ALS Programs. – The DepEd shall strengthen the implementation of
9	a range of priority non-formal education (NFE) programs including but not limited to
10	the following:
11	 Basic Literacy Program for nonliterates, neo-literates, and post-literates;
12	 b) A&E programs for elementary and secondary education dropouts;
13	c) Indigenous peoples education program for members of ICCs; and
14	d) Supplemental lifelong learning and academic bridging programs for ALS
15	completers.
16	To effectively deliver the NFE programs, the DepEd may utilize appropriate,
17	relevant and responsive learning modalities, such as:
18	a) modular instruction;
19	b) online, digital or mobile learning;
20	c) face-to-face learning sessions and tutorials;
21	d) radio or television-based instruction;
22	 e) blended learning or a combination of various modalities;
23	f) workshops, simulations, and internship to inculcate life skills, work
24	readiness and livelihood training, entrepreneurship, post-literacy, personal
25	interest, and community development skills; and
26	g) provision of inclusive and safe learning environments.
27	
28	Sec. 9. Accreditation and Equivalency Assessment and Certification
29	for ALS Learners. – The DepEd shall regularly conduct ALS A&E Assessments and
30	Certifications as a means to measure and certify competencies of ALS program
31	completers and other learners who opt to secure elementary and secondary level
32	certifications. It shall also conduct microcertification of sub-sets of competencies

drawn from the ALS K to 12 BEC. Such assessments and certifications can be done
both at the national and local levels.

Elementary level A&E passers are qualified to enroll in junior high school. Junior high school level A&E passers are qualified to enroll in technical and vocational education and training (TVET) programs accredited by the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), or find gainful employment or selfemployment. Senior high school level A&E passers are qualified to enroll for higher education or more advanced TVET programs that require a senior high school diploma.

Measures shall be undertaken in order for the general public, especially educational and training institutions, government agencies, and employers to recognize the nature and value of certifications provided to ALS learners.

13

Sec. 10. *Expansion of the ALS Teacher Program.* – To reach more outof-school youth, adults, and children in special extreme cases, and to accommodate learners with disabilities, the ALS teacher program shall be strengthened. The ALS teachers shall deliver quality community-based ALS programs for out-of-school youth, adults, and children in special extreme cases who are willing to develop basic and functional literacy and life skills, and pursue an equivalent pathway to complete basic education.

To promote the professional growth of ALS teachers, the Department of Budget and Management, in consultation with the DepEd and the Civil Service Commission, shall create teaching positions and allocate the corresponding salary grades.

The DepEd shall also hire ALS literacy volunteers and instructional managers to be ALS teachers through a contracting scheme to augment the needed human resource requirements for the implementation of ALS programs.

27

Sec. 11. *ALS Teacher Education and Training.* – In coordination with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and other relevant partners in the government, the academe, and the private sector, the DepEd shall develop and conduct training programs and workshops for ALS teachers to ensure that they have the necessary knowledge and capacity to carry out the programs under the ALS

curriculum, as well as enhance their skills on their roles as academic, administrative,
 and community leaders.

The CHED shall likewise develop a standardized and formalized ALS curriculum
for a specialized degree in ALS teaching.

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6

Sec. 12. Establishment of the ALS Community Learning Centers. –

There shall be established at least one (1) ALS Community Learning Center (CLC) in every municipality and city throughout the country to serve as a learning environment to facilitate the full implementation of the ALS K to 12 BEC and other ALS programs.
Priority should be given to areas where there is limited or no access to formal basic education or high concentration of out-of-school youth, adults, and children in special extreme cases.

Each ALS CLC shall be constructed in accordance with the specifications, criteria, and other details as provided and approved by the DepEd, in consultation with the municipal or city mayor or a duly authorized representative, to ensure the orderly implementation of ALS programs.

To augment the number of ALS CLCs, the facilities of all DepEd schools throughout the country shall likewise be used as learning centers during no class days and after regular class hours during class days.

Further, to ensure that every learner has equitable access to ALS programs, every CLC shall be open and operational seven (7) days a week and be provided with adequate facilities including a space for childcare for parents attending ALS classes.

23

Sec. 13. Recognition of ALS Providers, Standards of ALS Service 24 25 Delivery, and System of Rewards and Incentives. - In recognition of the distinct competence and commitment of the private sector in the delivery of ALS 26 services, the DepEd, in consultation with such sector, shall formulate and adopt a set 27 of standards of service delivery, including teacher gualification, teacher deployment, 28 teacher training, remuneration, and system of rewards and incentives which are 29 30 responsive to the needs and distinct situations of the particular areas where the 31 providers serve. The DepEd shall include in the Implementing Rules and Regulations of this Act the minimum requirements and conditions for such set of standards to 32

1 2 ensure quality delivery of ALS programs.

Sec. 14. *Partnership with Government Agencies.* – To effectively deliver
 quality ALS programs, the DepEd shall partner with the following government
 agencies in the implementation of this Act:

a) Commission on Higher Education (CHED) – The CHED shall assist the DepEd
 in promoting among higher education institutions (HEIs) the admission of ALS
 A&E passers. The CHED shall support the DepEd in the development of college
 readiness supplemental programs and provide access to scholarships.

b) Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) – The TESDA
 shall assist the DepEd in equipping the ALS learners with technical-vocational
 skills and provide access to national certification, as applicable, to improve
 their work readiness. The TESDA shall support the DepEd in implementing
 post-program support activities including providing access to scholarships.

- c) Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) The DOLE shall promote
 gainful employment, on-the-job training, and apprenticeship opportunities for
 ALS learners.
- d) Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) The DTI, in partnership with the
 DepEd, shall promote opportunities for entrepreneurship, including access to
 micro-financing and seed capital to ALS learners.
- e) Department of Agriculture (DA) The DA, in partnership with the DepEd, shall
 develop a training program for ALS learners and promote opportunities for
 agricultural entrepreneurship, including easy access to credit.

f) Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) – The DSWD shall
 support the DepEd ALS programs by sharing its community mapping data,
 referring prospective learners, and providing access to other social services to
 ALS learners.

g) Department of the Interior and Local Government (DILG) – The DILG shall
 help enlist the support of the LGUs as DepEd partners in the implementation
 of the ALS program. The DepEd shall coordinate with the DILG on matters
 requiring LGU participation including but not limited to the generation and
 mapping of data related to education as a dimension of poverty under Republic

- 1 Act No. 11315 or the "Community-Based Monitoring System Act."
- h) Department of Justice (DOJ) The DOJ shall collaborate with the DepEd to
 facilitate, expand, and strengthen the implementation of ALS programs for
 persons deprived of liberty.
- i) National Commission on Indigenous Peoples (NCIP) The NCIP shall assist the
 DepEd to develop a culturally responsive curriculum that respects and takes
 into account the indigenous knowledge system and practices and indigenous
 learning systems. Such curriculum shall be integrated with the prescribed ALS
 curriculum.
- j) Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) The
 DICT shall help the DepEd in the ALS implementation by providing digital
 resources to the various ALS CLCs and guidance for the digital literacy
 component of the ALS K to 12 BEC and the ALS non-formal education programs.
- k) Department of Health (DOH) The DOH shall assist ALS teachers in the delivery
 of health education and other services that promote the health and wellbeing
 of ALS learners, especially female childbearing youth and adult learners. It shall
 partner with the DepEd in providing ALS programs for the qualified patients of
 its various Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation Centers.
- Such other relevant government agencies whose mandated functions and
 mechanisms are necessary to effectively and sustainably implement ALS
 programs.
- 22

Sec. 15. *Partnership with LGUs.* – LGUs shall partner and coordinate with the DepEd in the delivery of ALS programs to their constituents. In partnership with other government agencies and stakeholders, LGUs shall identify and mobilize prospective ALS learners, provide access to conducive learning environments, contribute available resources to ALS programs, promote post-program activities, and introduce local innovations, as necessary.

29

Sec. 16. *Local School Board.* – The Local School Board, established pursuant to Section 98 of Republic Act No. 7160 or the "Local Government Code of 1991," shall perform the following additional functions in the delivery of ALS

programs: 1

a) Coordinate ALS implementation with the DepEd at the city or municipal 2 level, including the identification of priority ALS programs, establishment, 3 operation and maintenance of ALS CLCs, provision of technical assistance 4 to ALS teachers, program monitoring and evaluation including parallel 5 assessments, and coordination with partners in the government and the 6 private sector for post-program support activities; 7

- b) Allow the use of a portion of the Special Education Fund under Sections 235 8 and 272 of Republic Act No. 7160 for the operation and maintenance of 9 ALS programs within the city or municipality and the supplementary local 10 cost of meeting such needs, including but not limited to the hiring of 11 additional ALS teachers within the LGU's area of jurisdiction; and 12
- c) Such other functions to ensure the effective and sustainable 13 implementation of ALS programs. 14

Notwithstanding the provisions of Section 98 of Republic Act No. 7160, the 15 composition of the Local School Boards shall also include as members the division 16 ALS program supervisors in provinces and cities, and the district ALS coordinators in 17 municipalities. 18

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Sec. 17. Mandatory Annual Review and Impact Assessment of the ALS

Program. - The DepEd, in partnership with the private sector, shall conduct a 21 mandatory annual review of the ALS program, and submit such annual report to 22 Congress to measure its effectiveness and ensure its proper implementation. 23

An evaluation system shall be established to assess the impact of the ALS 24 program and the progress of the learners who have completed the program. 25

- 26

Sec. 18. Prohibition from Collection of Fees. - All DepEd ALS programs 27 are free of charge and collection of all kinds of fees, costs or charges is prohibited. 28 29

Sec. 19. Tax Incentives. – Any donation, contribution, bequest or grant, in 30 cash or services, whether local or foreign, which may be made by individuals and 31 organizations, including private entities which shall provide the appropriate services, 32

materials, and delivery support services for the promotion of the ALS program, shall 1 be exempt from the donor's tax and the cost of which shall be considered as an 2 allowable deduction from the gross income in the computation of the income tax of 3 the donor in accordance with the provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code of 4 1997, as amended. 5

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Sec. 20. Transportation and Teaching Aid Allowance of ALS Teachers and Facilitators. – Notwithstanding the receipt of a special hardship allowance, ALS 8 teachers and facilitators shall be entitled to their corresponding transportation and 9 teaching aid allowances subject to guidelines that may be issued by the DepEd. 10

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Sec. 21. Appropriations. - The amount necessary for the implementation of 12 this Act shall be charged against those authorized in the current and subsequent 13 General Appropriations Act. 14

15

Sec. 22. Implementing Rules and Regulations. - Within ninety (90) days 16 from the approval of this Act, the Secretary of Education, in consultation with 17 concerned government agencies and other education stakeholders, shall formulate 18 the rules and regulations implementing the provisions of this Act. The Implementing 19 Rules and Regulations (IRR) issued pursuant to this section shall take effect thirty 20 (30) days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation. 21

22

Sec. 23. Transitory Provision. - All existing ALS programs, including ALS 23 centers or facilities, established pursuant to the provisions of Republic Act No. 10533 24 shall continue to operate pursuant to, and be regulated by, the provisions of this Act 25 and its IRR. 26

27

Sec. 24. Separability Clause. – If any part, section or provision of this Act 28 is declared invalid or unconstitutional, the other parts thereof not affected thereby 29 shall remain in full force and effect. 30

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Sec. 25. Repealing Clause. – All laws, acts, presidential decrees, executive

orders, administrative orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with
 or contrary to the provisions of this Act are hereby amended, modified or repealed
 accordingly.

4

5 **Sec. 26.** *Effectivity*. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its 6 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

