

CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES  
EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS  
*First Regular Session*



SENATE

S. No. 1541

(IN SUBSTITUTION OF SENATE BILL NOS. 1438, 1452 AND 1457)

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PREPARED BY THE COMMITTEE ON BASIC EDUCATION, ARTS AND CULTURE WITH SENATORS SOTTO III, VILLANUEVA, TOLENTINO, GATCHALIAN AND ZUBIRI AS AUTHORS THEREOF

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AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 3 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7797, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "AN ACT TO LENGTHEN THE SCHOOL CALENDAR FROM TWO HUNDRED (200) DAYS TO NOT MORE THAN TWO HUNDRED TWENTY (220) CLASS DAYS"

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

1           SECTION 1. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 7797,  
2 otherwise known as "An Act to Lengthen the School  
3 Calendar from Two Hundred (200) Days to Not More Than

1 Two Hundred Twenty (220) Class Days," is hereby  
2 amended to read as follows:

3 "SEC. 3. *Start of the School Year.* – The school  
4 year shall start on the first Monday of June but not  
5 later than the last day of August: *PROVIDED,*  
6 THAT IN THE EVENT OF A DECLARATION OF  
7 A STATE OF EMERGENCY OR STATE OF  
8 CALAMITY, THE PRESIDENT, UPON THE  
9 RECOMMENDATION OF THE SECRETARY OF  
10 EDUCATION, MAY SET A DIFFERENT DATE  
11 FOR THE START OF THE SCHOOL YEAR IN  
12 THE COUNTRY OR PARTS THEREOF.

13 NOTWITHSTANDING THE PROVISION OF  
14 ANY LAW TO THE CONTRARY, THE DEFERRED  
15 SCHOOL OPENING SHALL APPLY TO ALL  
16 BASIC EDUCATION SCHOOLS, INCLUDING  
17 FOREIGN OR INTERNATIONAL SCHOOLS.

18 In the implementation of this Act, the  
19 Secretary of Education [~~Culture and Sports~~] shall

1 determine the end of the regular school year, taking  
2 into consideration the Christmas and summer  
3 vacations, and the peculiar circumstances of each  
4 region.

5 In the exercise of this authority, the Secretary of  
6 Education [~~Culture and Sports~~] may authorize the  
7 holding of Saturday classes for elementary and  
8 secondary levels for public and private schools.”

9 *SEC. 2. Implementing Rules and Regulations.* –  
10 Within thirty (30) days after the effectivity of this  
11 Act, the Department of Education, in consultation  
12 with relevant stakeholders, shall issue the necessary  
13 rules and regulations for its effective implementation.

14 *SEC. 3. Repealing Clause.* – All laws, acts,  
15 presidential decrees, executive orders, administrative  
16 orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof,  
17 inconsistent with, or contrary to the provisions of this  
18 Act are hereby modified, amended, or repealed  
19 accordingly.

1        SEC. 4. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect  
2 immediately upon its publication in the *Official*  
3 *Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,