NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES First Regular Session



'22 JUL 18 P1 :57

SENATE S. No. 718

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by Senator Grace Poe

AN ACT

PROVIDING EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS TO THE SURVIVING CHILDREN OF MEMBERS OF THE PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE WHO WERE SLAIN OR WERE PERMANENTLY INCAPACITATED IN THE LINE OF DUTY, CREATING THE PNP EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS FUND, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article 2, Section 5 of the 1987 Philippine Constitution provides that the maintenance of peace and order is essential for the enjoyment by all people of the blessings of democracy. However, as the Mamasapano incident reminded us, as well as all other relevant operations against criminal activities, the maintenance of peace and order is not without risk to those who pursue it or their families, particularly the members of the Philippine National Police (PNP).

Recognizing the considerable harm faced by members of the PNP in the performance of their duties, this bill seeks to institutionalize educational benefits to the surviving children of policemen who are slain or were permanently incapacitated in the line of action. It proposes that all surviving children of members of the PNP who are killed or were permanently incapacitated in the line of duty shall be entitled to educational benefits from the time they are orphaned or from the time of permanent incapacity of the officer up to the completion of secondary education. The benefits shall include tuition, and reasonable allowances for books, school supplies, transportation, clothing and food.

Speedy approval of this bill is urgently sought.

grace Poegrace Foe

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

Section 1. *Declaration of Policy.* – The State recognizes the immense risks and considerable harm faced by members of the Philippine National Police (PNP) in fighting crime and ensuring the peace and order of the general public. As such, it shall be the policy of the State to provide educational benefits to the surviving children of members of the PNP who are slain or are permanently incapacitated in the line of duty.

Sec. 2. *Educational Benefits.* – All surviving children of members of the PNP who are killed or are permanently incapacitated in the line of duty shall be entitled to educational benefits from the time they are orphaned or from the time of the physical incapacity of the officer up to the completion of secondary education. The benefits shall include tuition as well as reasonable allowances for books, school supplies, transportation, clothing, and food.

Sec. 3. *PNP Educational Benefit Trust Fund.* – There is hereby created a trust fund to be known as the PNP Educational Benefits Trust Fund, hereinafter referred to as "the Fund", which shall be used exclusively for the provision of educational benefits under this act and shall be funded through the following:

a) Annual Appropriations;

- b) Proceeds generated from examination stamps, clearance and certification
 fees and other service income of the National Police Commission;
 - c) Proceeds from license fees for firearms and fines and penalties collected by the Philippine National Police, excluding the portion allocated for the Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) and the Department of National Defense (DND) provided under Sections 8, 9, and 10 of Republic Act No. 6963, as amended;
 - d) All interest income of the trust fund; and,

- e) Grants, donations and endowments from domestic and foreign sources, pursuant to existing laws and regulations
- Sec. 4. *Administration of the Fund.* The fund shall be administered by the National Police Commission, in accordance with existing government auditing rules and regulations.
- Sec. 5. *Annual Report.* The National Police Commission shall annually submit to the Office of the President, the Senate, and the House of Representatives a report on the disbursement and utilization of the Fund.
- Sec. 6. *Non-diminution of Benefits.* Nothing in this Act shall be construed to reduce existing benefits granted under existing laws, decrees, executive orders, or any contract, agreement, or policy between the employer and employee.
- Sec. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* Within six months from the effectivity of this Act, the National Police Commission, in coordination with the Department of Interior and Local Government, the Unified Student Financial Assistance System for Tertiary Education (UniFAST) Board, and other relevant government agencies shall jointly promulgate the rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.
- Sec. 8. *Separability Clause.* If any provision of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain in full force and effect.
- Sec. 9. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with or contrary to this Act, are hereby deemed accordingly repealed or amended.

- Sec. 10. Effectivity Clause This Act shall take effect upon its publication in
- 2 the Official Gazette.

Approved,