



22 OCT -3 P5:45

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

RECEIVED BY:

SENATE

COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 6

Submitted jointly by the Committees on Higher, Technical and Vocational Education;
and Basic Education on OCT 03 2022

RE: Senate Bill No. 1359

Recommending its approval in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 507, 524 and 787

Sponsor: Sen. Francis G. Escudero

MR. PRESIDENT:

The Committees on Higher, Technical and Vocational Education and Basic Education to which were referred **Senate Bill No. 507**, introduced by Senator Ramon Bong Revilla, Jr., and Senator Ronald "Bato" Dela Rosa entitled:

"AN ACT

PENALIZING THE IMPOSITION OF A "NO PERMIT, NO EXAM" POLICY OR ANY SUCH POLICY THAT PROHIBITS STUDENTS OF POST-SECONDARY AND HIGHER EDUCATION FROM TAKING THEIR MIDTERM OR FINAL EXAMINATION OR OTHER SIMILAR ASSESSMENTS DUE TO UNPAID TUITION AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES"

Senate Bill No. 524, introduced by Senator Cynthia A. Villar, entitled:

"AN ACT

PENALIZING THE IMPOSITION OF A "NO PERMIT, NO EXAM" POLICY OR ANY SUCH POLICY THAT PROHIBITS STUDENTS OF POST-SECONDARY AND HIGHER EDUCATION FROM TAKING THEIR MIDTERM OR FINAL EXAMINATIONS, OR OTHER SIMILAR ASSESSMENTS DUE TO UNPAID TUITION AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES"

and **Senate Bill No. 787**, introduced by Senator Juan Miguel F. Zubiri, entitled:

"AN ACT

PROHIBITING A "NO PERMIT, NO EXAM" POLICY OR ANY SUCH POLICY THAT PREVENTS STUDENTS OF ANY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION FROM TAKING THEIR EXAMINATIONS DUE TO UNPAID TUITION AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES"

have considered the same and have the honor to report them back to the Senate with the recommendation that the attached **Senate Bill No. 1359** prepared by the Committees, entitled:

"AN ACT

PROHIBITING THE IMPOSITION OF A "NO PERMIT, NO EXAM" POLICY, OR ANY POLICY THAT PREVENTS STUDENTS ENROLLED IN PUBLIC OR PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FROM TAKING EXAMINATIONS OR ANY FORM OF EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT FOR REASONS OF OUTSTANDING FINANCIAL OR PROPERTY OBLIGATIONS, SUCH AS UNPAID TUITION AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES"

be approved in substitution of Senate Bill Nos. 507, 524, and 787, with Senators Revilla Jr., Dela Rosa, Villar (C.), Zubiri, Escudero and Gatchalian as authors thereof.

Respectfully Submitted:

Chairpersons



SENATOR FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

Committee on Higher, Technical and Vocational Education

Vice Chairperson, Committee on Basic Education

SENATOR WIN GATCHALIAN

Committee on Basic Education

Vice Chairperson, Committee on Higher, Technical and Vocational Education

Respectfully Submitted:

Chairpersons

SEN. FRANCIS G. ESCUDERO

*Committee on Higher, Technical and
Vocational Education*

*Vice Chairperson, Committee on
Basic Education*

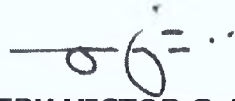


SEN. WIN GATCHALIAN

Committee on Basic Education

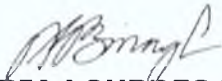
*Vice Chairperson, Committee on Higher,
Technical and Vocational Education*

Vice-Chairperson



SEN. JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO
*Committee on Higher, Technical
and Vocational Education*
Member, Committee on Basic Education

Members



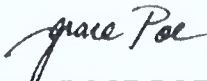
SEN. MARIA LOURDES NANCY S. BINAY
*Committee on Higher, Technical
and Vocational Education*
*Member, Committee on Basic
Education*

SEN. ALAN PETER "COMPAÑERO" S. CAYETANO
*Committee on Higher, Technical and
Vocational Education*



SEN. RONALD "BATO" DELA ROSA
*Committee on Higher, Technical, and
Vocational Education*
*Member, Committee on Basic
Education*

SEN. RAFFY T. TULFO
*Committee on Higher Technical and
Vocational Education*



SEN. GRACE POE
*Committee on Higher, Technical and
Vocational Education*

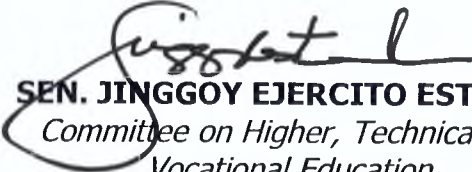


SEN. RAMON BONG REVILLA JR.
*Committee on Higher, Technical and
Vocational Education*

SEN. CYNTHIA A. VILLAR
*Committee on Higher, Technical and
Vocational Education*

SEN. IMEE R. MARCOS
*Committee on Higher, Technical and
Vocational Education
Committee on Basic Education*

SEN. PIA S. CAYETANO
*Committee on Higher, Technical and
Vocational Education
Committee on Basic Education*


SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
*Committee on Higher, Technical and
Vocational Education
Committee on Basic Education*

SEN. MARK VILLAR
*Committee on Higher, Technical and
Vocational Education*


SEN. RISA HONTIVEROS
*Committee on Higher, Technical and
Vocational Education
Committee on Basic Education*

SEN. SONNY ANGARA
Committee on Basic Education

SEN. CHRISTOPHER "BONG" GO
Committee on Basic Education

SEN. ROBINHOOD C. PADILLA
Committee on Basic Education


SEN. FRANCIS "TOL" N. TOLENTINO
Committee on Basic Education

SEN. CYNTHIA A. VILLAR
*Committee on Higher, Technical
and Vocational Education*

SEN. IMEE R. MARCOS
*Committee on Higher, Technical and
Vocational Education
Committee on Basic Education*

*may
interplamend*

SEN. PIA S. CAYETANO
*Committee on Higher, Technical
and Vocational Education
Committee on Basic Education*

SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
*Committee on Higher, Technical and
Vocational Education
Committee on Basic Education*

SEN. MARK VILLAR
*Committee on Higher, Technical
and Vocational Education
Committee on Basic Education*

SEN. RISA HONTIVEROS
*Committee on Higher, Technical and
Vocational Education
Committee on Basic Education*

SEN. SONNY ANGARA
Committee on Basic Education

SEN. CHRISTOPHER "BONG" GO
Committee on Basic Education

SEN. ROBINHOOD C. PADILLA
Committee on Basic Education

SEN. FRANCIS "TOL" N. TOLENTINO
Committee on Basic Education

Ex Officio Members



SEN. LOREN LEGARDA
President Pro Tempore

SEN. JOEL VILLANUEVA

Majority Leader

SEN. AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL

III

Minority Leader

HON. JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

Senate President

Ex Officio Members

SEN. LOREN LEGARDA
President Pro Tempore



SEN. JOEL VILLANUEVA
Majority Leader

"Will interpellate"



SEN. AQUILINO "KOKO" PIMENTEL III
Minority Leader

HON. JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI
Senate President

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



22 OCT -3 P5 :45

SENATE

RECEIVED BY:

SENATE BILL NO. 1359

Prepared and submitted jointly by the Committees on Higher, Technical and Vocational Education; and Basic Education with Senators Revilla Jr., Dela Rosa, Villar (C.), Zubiri, Escudero and Gatchalian as authors thereof

AN ACT

PROHIBITING THE IMPOSITION OF A "NO PERMIT, NO EXAM" POLICY, OR ANY POLICY THAT PREVENTS STUDENTS ENROLLED IN PUBLIC OR PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FROM TAKING EXAMINATIONS OR ANY FORM OF EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT FOR REASONS OF OUTSTANDING FINANCIAL OR PROPERTY OBLIGATIONS, SUCH AS UNPAID TUITION AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES

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

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "No Permit, No Exam'
2 Prohibition Act".

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to
4 promote the right of all citizens to quality education and to ensure access to
5 educational services regardless of personal or socioeconomic circumstances.
6 Towards this end, it is hereby declared unlawful for any educational institution,
7 public or private, to prevent any student from taking examinations or any form of
8 educational assessment for reasons of financial or property obligations, including
9 unpaid tuition and other school fees.

1 Sec. 3. *Coverage.* – This Act shall cover all public and private educational
2 institutions, including elementary and secondary schools, post-secondary technical-
3 vocational institutes, and higher educational institutions; and all individuals enrolled
4 under the K to 12 Basic Educational Program, in certificate, diploma or degree
5 programs of higher educational institutions, or in short-term courses offered by
6 technical-vocational training institutes.

7 Sec. 4. *Prohibition Against 'No Permit, No Exam' Policy.* – No public or private
8 educational institutions shall impose any policy to prevent students with outstanding
9 financial or property obligations, such as unpaid tuition and other school fees, from
10 taking examinations or any form of educational assessment with the rest of the
11 student body: *Provided,* That the students and/or their parents or legal guardians
12 shall execute a promissory note addressed to the educational institution concerned
13 or its duly authorized representative, indicating the amount of outstanding financial
14 or property obligations and the date when such obligation would be settled:
15 *Provided, further,* That, unless waived by the educational institutions concerned, the
16 outstanding financial or property obligations shall bear an interest rate not exceeding
17 six percent (6%) per annum computed from the date of the examination taken by
18 the students until the date when such obligations are paid.

19 Sec. 5. *Authorized Interventions.* – Educational institutions may enforce any
20 of the following interventions against students with outstanding financial or property
21 obligations until such time that the such obligations have been settled:

22 (a) Withhold the release or issuance of grades, diplomas or certificates,
23 whichever is applicable: *Provided,* That the grades, diploma, or
24 certificates of students with outstanding financial or property obligations
25 shall be processed and recorded together with the grades, diplomas and
26 certificates of the rest of the student body;

27 (b) Deny admission or enrolment in the succeeding school year, short-term
28 course, or semester, whichever is applicable;

29 (c) Refuse the issuance of applicable clearances; or

30 (d) Pursue the settlement of outstanding financial or property obligations
31 through appropriate court action: *Provided,* That this subsection shall not

1 be construed to prohibit either party from engaging in alternative modes
2 of resolution to settle the outstanding financial or property obligations:
3 *Provided, further,* That the total fines, penalties, or interests that may be
4 imposed against the students and/or their parents or legal guardians shall
5 not exceed the maximum interest rate provided under Section 4 of this
6 Act.

7 *Sec. 6. Prohibited Acts.* – The following acts committed by any educational
8 institution shall be prohibited:

- 9 (a) Disallowing any student with outstanding financial or property obligations
10 from taking examinations or any form of educational assessment with the
11 rest of the student body;
- 12 (b) Requiring any student to secure a permit to take an examination or any
13 form of education assessment from the school authorities prior to the
14 administration of such examination or assessment;
- 15 (c) Compelling any student or his or her parents or legal guardians to pay a
16 portion of the outstanding financial or property obligations prior to the
17 administration of any examination or assessment; or
- 18 (d) Imposing fines, penalties or interests on outstanding financial or property
19 obligations in excess of the maximum interest rate provided under
20 Section 4 of this Act;

21 *Sec. 7. Penalties.* – Educational institutions found guilty of committing any of
22 the prohibited acts enumerated in Section 6 of this Act shall be punished by a fine of
23 not less than Twenty Thousand Pesos (P20,000.00) but not more than Fifty
24 Thousand Pesos (P50,000.00) for each case.

25 *Sec. 8. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* – Within thirty (30) days
26 from the effectivity of this Act, the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the
27 Department of Education (DEPED), and the Technical Education and Skills
28 Development Authority (TESDA) shall jointly promulgate the rules and regulations to
29 effectively implement the provisions of this Act.

1 Sec. 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof is declared
2 unconstitutional, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall
3 remain in full force and effect.

4 Sec. 10. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, acts, decrees, executive orders,
5 issuances, and rules and regulations or parts thereof which are contrary to and
6 inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

7 Sec. 11. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect immediately following its
8 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general
9 circulation.

Approved,

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



'22 JUL 13 P2 :05

SENATE

S. No. 507

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

**AN ACT
PENALIZING THE IMPOSITION OF A "NO PERMIT, NO EXAM" POLICY OR
ANY SUCH POLICY THAT PROHIBITS STUDENTS OF POST-SECONDARY
AND HIGHER EDUCATION FROM TAKING THEIR MIDTERM OR FINAL
EXAMINATION OR OTHER SIMILAR ASSESSMENTS DUE TO UNPAID
TUITION AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In our culture, education is the most precious inheritance most Filipino parents believe they can pass on to their children for the benefit of their own future. No matter which social class you belong to in society, education is considered important. Especially to the lower class, it gives them hope that their educated children can help improve the quality of life of their families.

Unfortunately for students and their parents, schools can be quite exacting when it comes to tuition, and this could not be any more apparent than during examinations. While families understand that tuition and other fees are necessary for schools to provide the service required of them, they encounter unavoidable circumstances at times when they could not meet the obligation to pay the tuition fee on time. And while CHED has issued a Memorandum Order requiring colleges and universities to provide a Student Affairs and Services (SAS) office that will provide its students a package of services, including guidance and counseling, career and job placement, economic enterprise development and scholarship and financial assistance, it does not categorically prohibit the "no permit, no exam policy" and so this does not effectively stop schools from practicing it.

Prohibiting students from taking examinations solely because of the non-payment of tuition and/or other school fees is a violation of the rights of students to education. The State has the urgent duty to protect these rights and provide students with the means to access quality education. Hence, this measure seeks to protect the rights of students and aims to provide schools with adequate protection to ensure the payment of tuition and other school fees.

In view of the foregoing, the urgent approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



'22 JUL 13 P2:05

SENATE
S. No. 507

RECEIVED BY

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

AN ACT
PENALIZING THE IMPOSITION OF A "NO PERMIT, NO EXAM" POLICY OR ANY SUCH POLICY THAT PROHIBITS STUDENTS OF POST-SECONDARY AND HIGHER EDUCATION FROM TAKING THEIR MIDTERM OR FINAL EXAMINATION OR OTHER SIMILAR ASSESSMENTS DUE TO UNPAID TUITION AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES

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

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "Anti-No Permit, No
2 Exam Act of 2022".

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It shall be the policy of the State to protect and
4 promote the right of all the citizens to quality education at all levels. The State shall
5 take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all. Thus, it is hereby
6 declared unlawful for any educational institution, whether public or private to disallow
7 any student from taking any examination due to non-payment of tuition and other
8 school fees.

9 Sec. 3. *Coverage.* – This Act shall cover the following educational institutions:

- 10 a) Private elementary schools;
11 b) Private secondary schools;
12 c) Public and private post-secondary technical -vocational institutes; and
13 d) Public and private Higher Education institutions (HEIs), including local colleges.

14 Sec. 4. *Right of Students.* – Students of post-secondary and higher education
15 shall have the right to take their midterm or final examinations, or other similar

1 assessments, notwithstanding the existence of unpaid financial obligations to the
2 school.

3 *Sec. 5. Obligation of Students.* – The students and/or their parents, unless
4 waived by the school authorities concerned, shall be obligated to pay an interest
5 for the unpaid tuition and other school fees, which shall not be more than five
6 percent (5%) per annum, computed from the date of the examination taken by
7 the students until the date when the overdue and unpaid tuition and other school
8 fees are fully liquidated.

9 *Sec. 6. Right of Schools.* – The school authorities shall have the following rights
10 against students with financial obligations, which remain due and unsettled to their
11 schools:

- 12 a) To withhold the release of the grades or a student with delinquent account
13 until the unpaid tuition and other school fees plus interest charges are fully
14 paid;
- 15 b) To deny admission or enrolment of any student having unsettled tuition or
16 other school fees at the next succeeding semester classes, in the case of
17 higher education, or at the next succeeding short-term course, in the case
18 of post-secondary technical-vocational education, as the case may be, until
19 the previous delinquencies are fully paid;
- 20 c) To refuse issuance of school clearance to students with financial obligations
21 to the school until all previous delinquencies are fully paid.

22 *Sec. 7. No Permit, No Exam Policy.* – Schools shall be prohibited from adopting
23 a "No Permit, No Exam Policy", which limits the right to every student to take
24 examinations notwithstanding the existence of unpaid financial obligations to the
25 school. Provided, That the parents or legal guardian of the student provide a
26 promissory note, addressed to the school, indicating the amount and the date of
27 payment. The school shall reserve the right to pursue the recovery of the unpaid
28 tuition fees through proper court action where civil rights and liabilities may be
29 judicially established and collected. This shall not prohibit the student, parents, or
30 legal guardians to seek informal means of resolving tuition fee disputes or enter into
31 an agreement with the school before proceeding to court.

32 *Sec. 8. Prohibited Acts.* – The following acts shall be prohibited:

- 1 a) Disallowing students with due and unpaid tuition and other school fees from
2 taking examinations or providing a different schedule of exam from the rest of
3 the student body; and
4 b) Requiring the students to secure a special permit to take the examinations from
5 the school authorities prior to the administration of examinations.

6 Sec. 9. *Penalties.* – Any educational institution official or employee, including
7 deans, coordinators, advisers, professors, instructors, principals, teachers and other
8 concerned individuals found guilty of violating any of the unlawful acts enumerated in
9 Section 7 of this Act shall be punished by a fine of not less than Fifty Thousand Pesos
10 (PhP 50,000.00) but not more than One Hundred Thousand Pesos (PhP 100,000.00).

11 Sec. 10. *Implementing Guidelines.* – The Department of Education (DepEd),
12 Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) and Commission on
13 Higher Education (CHED) shall issue the rules and regulations necessary to implement
14 the provisions of this Act within sixty (60) days from the date of its approval.

15 Sec. 11. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part of this Act is held invalid
16 or unconstitutional, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be affected
17 thereby and shall remain in force and effect.

18 Sec. 12. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders,
19 proclamations, issuances, administrative order, rules and regulations contrary to or
20 inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified
21 accordingly.

22 Sec. 13. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
23 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



'22 JUL 13 P 3:00

SENATE

S. No. 524

RECEIVED BY: _____

Introduced by **SENATOR CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**

AN ACT
PENALIZING THE IMPOSITION OF A "NO PERMIT, NO EXAM" POLICY OR
ANY SUCH POLICY THAT PROHIBITS STUDENTS OF POST-SECONDARY
AND HIGHER EDUCATION FROM TAKING THEIR MIDTERM OR FINAL
EXAMINATIONS, OR OTHER SIMILAR ASSESSMENTS DUE TO UNPAID
TUITION AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

To most Filipino parents, education is the most precious inheritance they can pass on to their children. They consider it important to send their children to school, and this comes with hope that the educated children can help in improving their quality of life to a level that is more comfortable. In the Philippine setting, it is not peculiar that families mortgage a piece of their lands or homes, and even sell a few of their possessions in order that their children could pursue college or tertiary education. In short, it is typical for Filipino parents to sacrifice so much so that their children could get quality education.


It is a good thing that Republic Act No. 10931 or the Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education Act, which institutionalizes free tuition and exemption from other fees in state universities and colleges (SUCs), and local universities and colleges (LUCs) in the Philippines was enacted. The law was passed to give underprivileged Filipino students a better chance to earn quality higher education.

However, not all children get to attend public schools, universities and colleges (SUCs). Some modest families send their children to private schools. And at times, these schools can be quite exacting when it comes to tuition, and this becomes more apparent during examinations. While families understand that tuition and other fees are necessary for schools to provide the service required of them, they encounter unavoidable circumstances at times when they could not meet the obligation to pay the tuition fee on time. And while CHED has issued a Memorandum Order requiring colleges and universities to provide a Student Affairs and Services (SAS) office that will provide its students a package of services, including guidance and counseling, career and job placement, economic enterprise development and scholarship and financial assistance, it does not categorically prohibit the "no permit, no exam policy" and so this does not effectively stop schools from practicing it.

Sometime in 2013, we were quite distressed when we heard about a promising student in a premier state university who allegedly committed suicide because she was not allowed to take her college examination due to her inability to pay the school fees. To my mind, this could have been avoided, if only we have in place a more considerate policy towards students undergoing financial difficulties.

The proposed legislation seeks to prohibit public/private higher education institutions (HEIs) and technical-vocational schools from enforcing the "No Permit, No Exam" policy which essentially denies students the right to take examinations unless tuition fee payments are updated. Parents and students, who are facing financial difficulties, time and again suffer emotional stress under this seemingly unfair practice.

It is therefore recommended that the foregoing bill be approved.


CYNTHIA A. VILLAR

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



'22 JUL 13 P3:00

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S. No. 524

Introduced by **SENATOR CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**

AN ACT
PENALIZING THE IMPOSITION OF A "NO PERMIT, NO EXAM" POLICY OR ANY SUCH POLICY THAT PROHIBITS STUDENTS OF POST-SECONDARY AND HIGHER EDUCATION FROM TAKING THEIR MIDTERM OR FINAL EXAMINATIONS, OR OTHER SIMILAR ASSESSMENTS DUE TO UNPAID TUITION AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES

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

1 Section 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the "Anti-'No Permit, No
2 Exam' Act of 2022".

3 Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared unlawful for any
4 educational institution, including primary, secondary, higher education institution
5 (HEI) or technical-vocational institute (TVI), whether public or private, to disallow
6 any student from taking any midterm or final examination due to non-payment of
7 tuition and other school fees under the established terms of payment prescribed by
8 the concerned educational institution and approved by the Department of Education
9 (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and Technical Education and
10 Skills Development Authority (TESDA), respectively.

11 Sec. 3. *Coverage.* – This Act shall cover all public and private educational
12 institutions including primary, secondary and post-secondary HEIs and TVIs.

1 Sec. 4. *Right of Students.* – Students shall have the right to take the midterm
2 or final examinations notwithstanding the existence of unpaid financial obligations to
3 the school.

4 Sec. 5. *Obligation of Students.* – The students and/or their parents, unless
5 waived by the school authorities concerned, shall be obligated to pay an interest for
6 the unpaid tuition and other school fees, which shall not be more than six percent
7 (6%) per annum, computed from the date of the examination taken by the students
8 until the date when the overdue and unpaid tuition and other school fees are fully
9 liquidated.

10 Sec. 6. *Rights of Schools.* – The school authorities shall have the following
11 rights against students with financial obligations, which remain due and unsettled to
12 their schools:

- 13 a) To withhold the release of the grades of a student with delinquent
14 account until the unpaid tuition and other school fees, plus interest
15 charges, are fully paid;
- 16 b) To deny admission or enrolment of any student having unsettled
17 tuition or other school fees at the next succeeding semester classes, in
18 the case of higher education, or at the next succeeding short-term
19 course, in the case of post-secondary technical-vocational education,
20 as the case may be, until the previous delinquencies are fully paid; and
- 21 c) To refuse issuance of school clearance to students with financial
22 obligations to the school until all previous delinquencies are fully paid.

23 Sec. 7. *Unlawful Acts.* – In recognition of the students' right to take their
24 midterm and final examinations, the following acts by educational institutions shall
25 be considered unlawful:

- 26 a) Disallowing students with due and unpaid tuition and other school fees
27 from taking the midterm or final examination;

- 1 b) Requiring the students to secure a permit to take the midterm or final
2 examination from the school authorities prior to the administration of
3 midterm periodic or final examination; and
- 4 c) Compelling the students to pay upon enrollment a down payment or
5 first installment equivalent to more than thirty percent (30%) of the
6 total amount of tuition and other school fees for the entire semester or
7 duration of the course.

8 Sec. 8. *Penalties.* – Any school official, including deans, coordinators,
9 advisers, professors, instructors and other concerned individuals found guilty of
10 violating any of the unlawful acts enumerated in Section 7 of this Act shall be
11 punished by a fine of not less than Twenty Thousand pesos (P20,000.00) but not
12 more than Fifty Thousand pesos (P50,000.00).

13 Sec. 9. *Implementing Guidelines.* – Within sixty (60) days from the effectivity
14 of this Act, the DepEd, CHED and TESDA shall promulgate the implementing
15 guidelines necessary to enforce the objectives of this Act.

16 Sec. 10. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part of this Act is held
17 invalid or unconstitutional, the other sections or provisions hereof shall not be
18 affected thereby and shall remain in force and effect.

19 Sec. 11. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders,
20 proclamations, issuances, administrative orders, rules and regulations contrary to or
21 inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby amended, repealed or modified
22 accordingly.

23 Sec. 12. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following
24 its complete publication in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,