

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

'22 NOV 21 P1:11

SENATE

s. No. 1522

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

AN ACT STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF PARENTS ASSOCIATIONS AND CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE NATIONAL PARENT COUNCIL, AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article II, Section 12 of the 1987 Constitution states that "the natural and primary right and duty of parents in the rearing of the youth for civic efficiency and the development of moral character shall receive the support of the Government."

The State believes that collaborative partnership between educators, school management, parents, the wider community and the children themselves is the key to providing top tier education for our nation's youth. Ultimately, strengthened parents associations will highly contribute to the welfare of the youth tasked to carry on the mission of building a better and brighter nation.

This bill seeks to cultivate parents' participation in the enhancement of our educational system through the strengthening of parents associations across our nation.

In cognizance of the vital role that parent associations play in the development of our children, this bill aims to create the National Parent Council.

The passage of this bill into law is earnestly sought, for the future of our nation.

RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

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AN ACT

STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF PARENTS ASSOCIATIONS AND CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE NATIONAL PARENT COUNCIL, 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 "*National Parent Council* Act of 2022".
- Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policies.* Pursuant to the Constitutional mandate that the government shall support the natural and primary right and duty of the parents in the rearing of the youth for civic efficiency and the development of moral character, it is hereby declared the objectives of this Act:
 - a. The right and duty of parents to organize themselves and form associations, for the purpose of ventilating their ideas in relation to the proper and effective education of their children, shall be encouraged.
- b. Parents associations shall be strengthened and given necessary
 incentives in order to serve best the welfare and give utmost benefits to
 the children; and
- 13 c. The Department of Education (DepEd) shall give due recognition, 14 importance and support to parent associations as its partner in providing 15 accessible and quality education.
- Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.* For purposes of this Act, the term:
- a. *Parents Associations* refer to the organization composed exclusively of parents and/or guardians of school children in the primary and

- secondary levels established for the purpose of ensuring the welfare of the school children and students. Existing associations with the purpose and membership but under different names shall be considered parent associations under this Act.
 - b. Schools refer to both public and private sectarian or nonsectarian educational institutions.
 - c. City refers to both chartered and non-chartered cities.

- Sec. 4. *Coverage.* This Act shall apply to the network of parents associations established on a per-school basis, organized at the municipality or city and provincial levels. As such, parents associations at all levels within a municipality or city may form a Municipal or City parents associations, and all Municipal and City parents associations within a province may form a Provincial parents association. The organization of these associates shall enable the parents to perform their role effectively for the benefit and welfare of the school children.
- Sec. 5. *Formation and Support of Parent Associations.* School authorities shall encourage, support and cooperate in the organization of parents associations.
- Further, barangay, municipal, city and provincial officials shall provide the necessary assistance and support to parent associations, especially in the implementation of their school-based activities and projects.
- Sec. 6. *Incentives.* To encourage parents and enable them to function productively and efficiently, they shall be accorded the following:
 - a. Participation in Local Government Council Meetings and School Advisory Boards. There shall be a parent representative to the Committee on Education or its equivalent in the Sangguniang Bayan, Sangguniang Panlungsod and the Sangguniang Panlalawigan, as well as to the advisory body of each school, to be elected among the members of municipal, city and provincial parent associations, respectively.
 - b. *Exemption from Taxes*. All contributions, gifts, donations, bequests by members of the parents associations in favor of duly-approved projects that form part of the school plans shall be exempted from taxes.

c. *Accreditation Requirement.* - The existence of a dynamic and effective parents association in a school shall be required by qualified accrediting agencies as an evaluative criterion for the accreditation of the school.

Sec. 7. *National Parent Council.* -To establish an effective and appropriate body for an effective and continuing coordination between the Department of Education (DepEd) and the parents associations nationwide, and to encourage a closer working relationship which will not only promote the welfare of the school children but also to that of the community they live in, there is hereby created a National Parent Council, hereafter referred to as "*Council*", to be composed of representatives elected from among the Provincial Parents Associations.

Officers of the Council shall be elected from among the members.

There shall be an annual general assembly of the members to be coordinated closely with the Office of the Secretary of the DepEd.

Sec. 8. *Powers and Functions.* - The Council shall have the following powers and functions:

- a. To act as an advisory body to the DepEd and as such shall be attached to the Office of the Secretary for effective liaison and coordination;
- To participate in the formulation of national guidelines as it refers to policies and procedures governing school fees, visual aids and practical application for curricular activities;
- c. To assist, thru the municipality and provincial associations, the appropriate DepEd regional, provincial or municipal office in monitoring, overseeing and evaluating the implementation of school infrastructure projects;
- d. To provide nationwide forum wherein the views of parents on relevant issues can be deliberated upon before these are brought to appropriate bodies for action;
- e. To be an effective link between the DepEd and all agencies that deal with matters pertinent to schools;
- f. To create such specialized committees and appoint members not only from within the Council but also from the municipal, city or provincial parents associations to help address successfully specific concerns; and

g	. To request coop	eration of any barang	gay, municipal, c	city, provincial	or national
	official on any m	atter deemed necess	ary to carry out	the provisions	of this Act.

Sec. 9. *National Parents Association Week.* -There is hereby declared a National Parents Association Week to be held during the first week of February of every year in order to highlight and give recognition to the achievements and importance of parents associations in their role in giving accessible and quality education to the children.

Appropriation activities nationwide, which will conclude the holding of the Annual General Assembly of the National Parent Council, shall be undertaken and drawn up by the Council.

Expenses relevant to these activities, including the organization of an assembly, secretariat services, and attendance of members, speakers and guests shall be charged to the DepEd budget.

Sec. 10. *Appropriations.* - An annual regular appropriation of Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (P500,000.00) shall be included in the annual budget of the DepEd exclusively for the implementation of this Act.

Sec. 11. *The Role of DepEd.* - The DepEd shall promulgate the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) to carry out the objectives of this Act.

Sec. 12. *Separability Clause*. - If any provision of this Act is declared invalid, the remainder of this Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in force and effect.

Sec. 13. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, presidential decrees, executive and administrative orders contrary to, or inconsistent with, the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

Sec. 14. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the Philippines.

Adopted,