

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC
OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

SENATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

7 JUN 30 P1:06

SENATE
S. B. No. 59

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The accessibility of quality education to all citizens is the main purpose of this proposed measure. To concretize this vision, this measure seeks to require all colleges and universities to provide scholarship grants to poor but deserving students.

Article XIV, Section 1 of the Constitution provides that "xxx The State shall protect and promote that right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all".

In order to enforce this clear mandate of the Constitution, all colleges and universities shall be required under this measure to give their full support in the implementation of an effective scholarship program geared towards the holistic education and training of poor but deserving students and to provide them the necessary support mechanism to finish their education.

This measure aims to empower and educate the poor Filipino students by giving them the avenue to finish their college education and thereafter pursue productive careers. When we educate the poor and provide them with the educational support mechanisms to finish their studies, we proactively contribute to the welfare and well-being of this nation.

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


MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID
Senator

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AN ACT
REQUIRING ALL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO PROVIDE
SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS TO POOR BUT DESERVING STUDENTS
REPRESENTING AT LEAST FIVE PERCENT (5%) OF THE TOTAL STUDENT
POPULATION, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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 "Scholarship for
the Poor Act of 2007"

Sec. 2. Declaration of Policy.—It is the policy of the State to give priority to
education, protect and promote the rights of all citizens to quality education at all
levels and it shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to
all. Towards this end, there shall be provided scholarship grants to poor but
deserving *Filipino students in all colleges and universities.*

Sec. 3. Nature and Extent of Scholarship Grants.—Scholarship grants are
hereby granted in the form of free tuition fee to at least five percent (5%) of the
student population in all colleges and universities which grants shall be available
to poor but deserving students.

Sec. 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).—The Secretary of the
Department of Education shall issue the necessary implementing rules and
regulations for the speedy and effective implementation of this scholarship
program.

Sec. 5. Repealing Clause.—All laws, presidential decrees, executive
orders, proclamations, rules and regulations, or parts thereof which are
inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified
accordingly.

Sec. 6. Separability Clause.—If any provision of this Act is declared
unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected thereby shall remain valid.

Sec. 7. Effectivity Clause.—This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from
its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general
circulation.

Approved,