

14th CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

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SENATE

S.B. No. 239

Introduced by Senator Ramon Bong Revilla, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article 2, Section 13, of the 1987 Constitution provides, to wit:

“Section 13. The State recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic affairs.”

Gifted and talented students give evidence of high performance capability in specific academic fields, or in areas such as intellectual, creative, artistic, or leadership capacity, and require services or activities not ordinarily provided by a school in order to fully develop such capabilities.

Many of these gifted have been historically underrepresented in gifted education programs. Because gifted and talented students generally are more advance academically, they are able to learn more quickly and study in more depth and complexity than others their age.

If the country is to complete successfully in the global economy, it is important that more students achieve to higher levels of training, and that highly capable students receive an education that prepares them to perform the most highly innovative and creative work necessary in today’s workplace.

As such, this proposed measure seeks to provide indigent but gifted and talented students the opportunity to develop their capabilities.


Hence, the passage of this measure is earnestly sought.


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR
Senator

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AN ACT
GIVING INDIGENT BUT GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS THE
OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP THEIR CAPABILITIES, 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 “Gifted and Talented Students Education Act of 2007.”

SECTION 2. *Purpose.* – The purpose of this Act is to provide grants to public schools to support programs, classes, and other services designated to meet the needs of indigent but gifted and talented students in elementary and secondary schools.

SECTION 3. *Program Authorization and Activities.* – The Secretary of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS) is hereby authorized to provide grants to each DECS Regional Office for use by public schools to develop or expand gifted and talented education programs through one or more of the following activities:

1. **Professional Development Programs.** – The government may use funds to develop and implement programs to address local need for in-service training programs for general education, specialists in gifted and talented education, administrators, school counselors, or other personnel at the elementary and secondary levels.
2. **Technical Assistance.** – The government may make materials and service available through regional education service centers, universities, college, or other entities.
3. **Innovative Programs and Services.** – The government may provide funds to formulate challenging, high-level course work to individual students or groups of students in schools and school districts that do not have the resources to otherwise provide the course through new and emerging technologies, including distance learning education modules. Funds may be used to develop curriculum packages, compensate distance-learning educators, or for other relevant purposes, but may be used for the purchase or upgrading of technological hardware.

SECTION 4. *State Infrastructure Costs.* – No more than ten percent (10%) of the total amount received under this Act may be used for DECS administrative costs, such as facilitating the coordination of gifted and talented education programs and services, disseminating information and materials to teachers and parents, creating national or regional, as the case may be, gifted education advisory boards, and administering funds received under this Act.

SECTION 5. *Application.* –

- (A) **In General.** – To be eligible to receive a grant award under this Act, each DECS Regional Office shall submit an application to the DECS Secretary at such time and in such form and manner as the Secretary may reasonably require.
- (B) **Contents.** – The application shall include assurance of the following:
1. That the funds received under this Act shall be used exclusively to support gifted and talented students in public schools, including students from all economic and ethnic backgrounds, gifted students with disabilities and highly gifted students;
 2. That not less than ninety percent (90%) of the funds received by the DECS Regional Office will be distributed to public schools within the regions; and
 3. That the funds received under this Act shall be used only to supplement, but not supplant, the amount of funds for the specialized education and related services provided for the education of gifted and talented students.
 4. That the DECS shall develop and implement program assessment and monitoring models to monitor the effective implementation of this Act.
- (C) **Approval.** – To the extent that funds are made available for this Act, the Secretary of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports shall approve an application of an educational agency, if such application meets the requirements of this section.

SECTION 6. *Appropriation* . – The amount necessary to carry out the implementation of this Act shall be charged against the annual general appropriations of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS).

SECTION 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety (90) days from the date of effectivity of this Act, the Secretary of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS) shall issue the necessary Rules and Regulations to effectively carry out the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 8. *Separability Clause.* – If, for any reasons, any section or provisions of this Act shall be held unconstitutional or invalid, the other section or provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid.

SECTION 9. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, proclamations, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 10. *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,