


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

7 JUL -2 P4.5

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

Senate Bill No. 495

INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The gifted and talented students manifest extraordinary skills in either or both areas of the academic and arts. Their high potentials for excellence can be the sources of bright and new ideas on how to make things around us work better. These children, therefore, should be given special education and training to enable them to maximize their knowledge and skills.

In the light of the State's recognition of the vital role of the youth in nation building, the "Gifted and Talented Students Education Act " seeks to provide appropriate programs for these children. It aims to cater even those who belong to the lower economic classes in our society. Recognizing their advanced and higher intellectual, creative, artistic, or leadership capacity, this bill seeks to mold these children so they can be at par with their counterparts in the global competition.

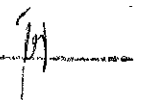
For these reasons, the passage of this bill is recommended.


JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA
Senator

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

7 JUL -2 P4:19

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

Senate Bill No. 495

INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

AN ACT
GIVING INDIGENT BUT GIFTED AND TALENTED STUDENTS THE
OPPORTUNITY TO DEVELOP THEIR CAPABILITIES

Be it enacted by the Senate and 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".

SEC 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 the indigent but gifted and talented students in the elementary and secondary schools.

SEC 3. *Definition of Terms.* For purposes of this Act:

- (1) The term "gifted" means such term as defined by the Department of Education.
- (2) The term "Secretary" refers to the Secretary of the Department of Education

SEC 4. *Program authorization and activities.* The Secretary is authorized to provide grants to each DepEd regional office for use by public schools to develop or expand gifted and talented educational programs through one or more of the following activities:

- (1) **PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMS.** – The government may expend funds to develop and implement programs to address local needs in services of training programs for general educators, 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 services available through regional education service centers, universities, colleges, or other entities.

- (3) **INNOVATIVE PROGRAMS AND SERVICES** – The government may provide funds to develop challenging, high-level course work to individual students or group of students in schools and school districts that do not have the resources to otherwise provide the courses through new and emerging technologies, including distance learning. Funds may be used to develop curriculum packages, compensate distance-learning educators, or for other relevant purposes, but may not be used for the purchase or upgrading of technological hardware.

SEC 5. State infrastructure costs. Not more than 10 per cent of the total amount received under this Act may be used for DepEd 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.

SEC 6. Application.

- (a) **IN GENERAL** – To be eligible to receive a grant award under this Act, each DepEd regional office shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time and in such form and manner as the secretary may reasonably require.
- (b) **CONTENTS** – The application shall include assurances that –
- (1) funds received under this Act shall be used 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) not less than 90 percent of the funds received by the DepEd regional office will be distributed to, public schools within the region; and
 - (3) funds received under this Act shall be used only to supplement, but not supplant, the amount of funds expended for the specialized education and related services provided for the education of gifted and talented students.
 - (4) the DepEd shall develop and implement program assessment models to
- (c) **APPROVAL** – To the extent funds are made available for this Act, the Secretary shall approve an application of an educational agency if such application meets the requirements of this section.

SEC 7. Allotment to Regions.

- (a) **IN GENERAL** – Except as provided in subsection (b), of the total amount made available for this Act, the Secretary shall award to each region an amount that bears the same relation to the total amount as the children ages 5 through 18 in the region for the preceding

academic year bears to the total number of all such children in all region for such year.

- (b) **MINIMUM AWARD** – If sufficient funds are made available for this Act for region to receive P2,000, 000 each fiscal. State that meets the requirement of this Act shall receive not less than P2,000 each fiscal year.
- (c) **RATABLE REDUCTION** – If the amount made available for this Act is insufficient to allocate the amount specified in subsection (b), the allocation shall be ratably reduced for each region.

SEC 8. Reporting. Each regional DepEd office shall submit a report to the Secretary beginning one year after the date of the enactment of this Act and each subsequent year that describes the number of students served and the activities supported with funds provided under this Act. The report shall include a description of the measures taken to comply with the accountability requirements of Section 4.

SEC 9. Authorization of Appropriation. There are authorized to be appropriated P30,000,000 to carry out this Act for each of the fiscal years 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008 and 2009.

SEC 10. Separability Clause. If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SEC 11. Repealing Clause. Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent with the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SEC 12. Effectivity Clause. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,