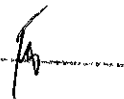


FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

7 SEP 11 2013

RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE

S. No. 1552

Introduced by Senator **JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

A nationalist and relevant education guides the people in their struggle for freedom and human advancement. It enables the youth to critically analyze and understand the problems of society and accordingly participate in the collective search for their solutions. Hence, students can be a vital force in a progressive social transformation.

Objective conditions on many campuses, however, obviate the students' acquisition of relevant knowledge and skills and militate against their active involvement in national affairs. The guarantees of students' rights that will provide them with an atmosphere most conducive to formal learning and democratic citizenship training are generally unobserved.

This piece of legislation, therefore, seeks to respect, protect and fulfill the rights of students in the secondary, post secondary, graduate and post graduate courses. It affirms the constitutionally recognized right of all citizens to quality education. It guarantees the students' rights to freely organize among themselves and to actively participate in the formulation of policies which directly affects them. It upholds their academic freedom and freedom of expression even as it reinforces their constitutional right to due process of law.


Accordingly, approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
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Introduced by Senator JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

**AN ACT
 PROVIDING FOR A MAGNA CARTA FOR STUDENTS**

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

1 **SECTION 1. *Title.*** - This Act shall be known as the "Magna Carta for
 2 Students."

3 **CHAPTER 1**
 4 **GENERAL PRINCIPLES**

5 **SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.*** - It is hereby declared to be the policy of
 6 the State to promote and protect the rights of students to enable them to participate
 7 actively and effectively in the democratic processes of effecting progressive and
 8 developmental changes in society.

- 9 a) The formal educational system being the principal institutional mechanism
 10 for imparting knowledge and developing skills shall be given priority
 11 attention and support by the government.
- 12 b) Education is a right and not a mere privilege. It is therefore the
 13 responsibility of the State to provide quality education accessible at all
 14 curriculum levels.
- 15 c) Student organizations enhance democratic processes on the campus.
 16 Membership and active participation in student organizations, alliances and
 17 *federations which promote and protect student's rights and welfare and/or*
 18 contribute to national development shall be guaranteed by the State and
 19 school authorities.
- 20 d) *Student organizations shall not be subject to rules and regulations that duly*
 21 hamper their activities and are prejudicial to their objectives and interests.

- 1 e) Student councils/governments being the most representative of the
2 studentry and the highest expression of student power on the campus shall
3 have the right to participate in the formulation of school policies directly
4 affecting students.
- 5 f) Student publications shall serve as a principal medium for free expression,
6 dissemination of information, and interaction, among the different sectors
7 of the academic community.
- 8 g) With their democratic rights guaranteed, students can serve as a potent
9 and cogent force in the country's nationalist social transformation.

10 **SECTION. 3. Definition of Terms.** - As used in this Act, the following terms
11 shall mean:

- 12 a) "Student" - any person enrolled in school in the secondary, post secondary
13 tertiary, graduate and post graduate levels, including vocational and
14 technical education.
- 15 b) "School" - any private, public or government-run and funded academic
16 educational institution offering any or all courses in the above-mentioned
17 levels.
- 18 c) "School campus" - the totality of all contiguous or proximate buildings,
19 grounds and other facilities designated by the school as areas or facilities
20 for the use of its students.
- 21 d) "Governing Board" - the highest policy making body of the school such as:
22 Board of Directors, Trustees or Regents.
- 23 e) "Student Council/Government" - the body representing the whole student
24 population in one school or school campus whose officers are annually
25 elected at large by the whole student population pursuant to its constitution
26 and by-laws, if any.
- 27 f) "Council of Leaders" - the body composed of the heads of various student
28 organizations chaired by the President/Chairman of the Student Council.
- 29 g) "Tuition fees" - the fee representing direct costs of instruction, training and
30 other related activities, and the use of school facilities. The term "other
31 school fees" refers to fees which cover other necessary costs supportive of
32 instruction, including but not limited to medical and dental, athletic, library,
33 laboratory, and Citizens' Army Training (CAT), Citizens' Military Training
34 (CMT) or National Service Training Program (NSTP) fees.

1 **CHAPTER II**

2 **RIGHT TO ADMISSION AND QUALITY EDUCATION**

3 **SECTION. 4. Admission.** - a) No student shall be denied admission to any
4 school on account of his physical handicap, socio-academic status, political or
5 religious beliefs, or membership in student organizations, or shall pregnant students
6 and certified reformed drug abusers be discriminated against.

7 Failure of or refusal by a student to sign waiver documents prepared by the
8 school administration shall not constitute a ground for his non admission.

9 b) A student shall have the right to freely choose his fields of study subject to
10 existing curricula and to continue his course up to graduation except in case of
11 academic deficiency or violation of disciplinary regulations which do not infringe upon
12 the exercise of student's rights.

13 **SECTION. 5. Right to Competent Instruction and Relevant Quality Education.** -
14 Every student shall have the right to competent instruction and quality education
15 relevant to his/her personal and cultural development and that of the nation.

16 There shall be at least one student representative in the body or committee
17 which screens incoming faculty members. He/she or they shall be regularly elected
18 and endorsed by the Student Council to the school official authorized to appoint the
19 members of the screening body or committee.

20 Students shall have the right to make a written evaluation of the performance
21 of their members toward the end of the school term.

22 **SECTION. 6. Right to Adequate Welfare Services and Academic Facilities.** - It
23 shall be the responsibility of the school administration to provide the students with
24 adequate welfare services and academic facilities.

25 School authorities shall endeavor to provide free annual physical check-up to
26 students. It shall be the responsibility of school authorities to provide students with
27 adequate laboratory, library, research, recreation and physical education facilities.

28 It shall be the responsibility of the school administration to promptly notify
29 students concerned of letters and other communications it receives in behalf of the
30 students.

31 **CHAPTER III**

32 **RIGHT TO ORGANIZE**

33 **SECTION. 7. Right to Organize Among Themselves.** - Unity and collective
34 effort being fundamental to the realization of common goals and the promotion and

1 protection of common interests, the State recognizes the right of students to organize
2 among themselves.

3 The right of students to form, assist, or join any campus organization, alliance
4 or federation for their physical, intellectual, moral, cultural, civic, spiritual and political
5 interests shall not be abridged. Pursuant thereto, the practice of making students
6 sign waiver documents which state that they are not members of and will not join a
7 specified organization before being allowed to enroll is hereby prohibited.

8 **SECTION. 8. *Student Council/Government.*** - The State shall ensure the
9 democratic and autonomous existence of student councils/governments. Pursuant
10 thereto, there shall be one student council/government for each school campus which
11 shall be given recognition by the schools, colleges and universities concerned. It shall
12 have its own set of officers elected in annual popular elections. Every student
13 council/government shall have the right to determine its policies and programs on
14 student activities subject to its duly ratified charter or constitution and state policy.

15 **SECTION. 9. *Accreditation of and Granting of Privileges to Student***
16 ***Organizations.*** - No unreasonable requirements shall be imposed on student
17 organizations seeking recognition.

18 Accreditation shall be granted upon the submission by the organization
19 concerned of its (1) concept paper and constitution, and (2) a formal letter addressed
20 to the student council stating the organization's intent to be accredited.

21 The student council in coordination with the school student affairs office shall
22 take charge of the accreditation of student organizations. The guidelines concerning
23 accreditation shall be formulated jointly by the student council and the council of
24 leaders composed of the heads of the different student organizations. The student
25 council shall oversee the implementation of these guidelines and mediate in
26 instances of conflicts.

27 There shall be no discrimination by the school administration in the
28 assignment of school facilities and the granting of other privileges to student
29 organizations. Excessive charges for the use of school facilities shall be prohibited.
30 Whenever possible, the school administration shall allow student organizations to use
31 school facilities free of charge.

32 **SECTION. 10. *Coordination of Student Organizations' Activities.*** - All on and
33 off campus activities of student organizations shall be coordinated by the student
34 council/government.

1 The Committee on Elections (COMELEC) constituted to conduct the election
2 of the officers of the student council/government shall be composed solely of bona
3 fide students of the school. The conduct of the student council election shall be held
4 in coordination with the student affairs office.

5 **SECTION. 11.** *Prohibition Against the Use of Force and Exaction of Excessive*
6 *Fines.* - All campus organizations shall be prohibited from using force in the initiation
7 of and exacting excessive fees from their members, as well as in their other student
8 activities.

9 CHAPTER IV

10 RIGHT TO PARTICIPATE IN POLICY MAKING

11 **SECTION. 12.** *Participation in Policy-Making Process.* - a) There shall be a
12 student representative in the governing board of the school. The chairman/president
13 of the student council/government or any designated representative chosen by the
14 student council/government, shall be the student representative and shall have the
15 same rights as those of a regular member: Provided, That his privileges shall be
16 limited to reimbursements for actual expenses incurred in attending meetings. The
17 same rights shall be granted to the secondary level.

18 The students shall also be represented in other policy-making bodies which
19 directly affect their welfare, especially in curriculum review, student discipline, and
20 academic standards. The representatives shall be designated by the student council.

21 b) Representatives of national student organizations shall actively participate
22 in the formulation of national policies affecting student's rights and welfare including
23 tuition fee matters.

24 **SECTION. 13.** *Student's Initiative and Referendum.* - The student
25 council/government through a majority vote of all its members shall have the right to
26 initiate the formulation, modification or rejection of a school policy affecting the
27 students. The proposition for the formulation, modification or rejection of a school
28 policy affecting the students. The proposition for the formulation, modification or
29 rejection of a school policy affecting the students shall be submitted to and approved
30 by a majority of the votes cast by all the bona fide students of the school in a
31 referendum called for the purpose: Provided, however, That the following areas shall
32 be excluded from the power of students on initiative and referendum: a) admission; b)
33 curriculum; c) faculty recruitment and tenure; d) rules on student conduct and
34 discipline; e) tuition fees; and f) scholastic rules (e.g. academic credits and retention
35 and graduation of students).

1 **SECTION. 14. *Right to File an Appeal.*** - Student council/government through
2 a majority vote of all its members shall have the right to file an appeal on a decision
3 of any policy-making body subordinate to the governing board. Such appeal shall be
4 filed with the governing board.

5 The student council/government with the same requisite number of votes
6 referred to in the previous paragraph may file a motion for reconsideration on any
7 decision of the governing board.

8 In case of any decision unfavorable to the students, the Student Council may
9 file an appeal with the Department of Education (DepEd), the Technical and
10 Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) and the Commission on Higher
11 Education (CHED), insofar as the secondary, post-secondary technical-vocational,
12 and tertiary students, respectively, are concerned.

13 All appeals and motions for reconsideration referred to in the previous
14 paragraph must be filed within thirty (30) calendar days from date of notice of
15 decision.

16 **SECTION. 15. *On the Matter of School Fees.*** - Within thirty (30) days from the
17 start of a school year, the governing board of every school shall create a body to be
18 known as the School Fee Board which shall study, conduct consultation and
19 thereafter recommend on tuition and other school fee increases. This body shall be
20 composed of an equal number of representatives from the administration, academic
21 staff, parents, students and alumni associations. These representatives shall choose
22 a chairman from among themselves.

23 The School Fee Board shall be independent of and supreme over the
24 governing board in deliberating and making decisions on tuition fee matters.

25 In justifying any tuition and/or other school fee increase before the School Fee
26 Board, the school concerned shall be required to present the school's financial
27 statements for the last five (5) years immediately preceding the proposal for such
28 increase. Refusal of the school administration to show its books and records for
29 inspection by the School Fee Board shall mean automatic denial for its proposal for
30 increases.

31 The School Fee Board shall not act on a proposal to increase school fees
32 unless the students and their parents are consulted at least one hundred eighty (180)
33 days before the school year, semester or term in which the increase is to be effected.

34 In the event the decision of the School Fee Board is not favorably acted upon
35 by the school governing board, the latter's decision may be appealed to the

1 appropriate education agencies within thirty (30) days from date of notice of decision
2 by any affected member of the school community.

3 No student or parent shall be required to sign any contract or agreement
4 respecting increases in tuition and other fees as a condition for enrollment or for any
5 other purpose.

6 For purposes of this section, "Consultation" shall mean dissemination of
7 adequate information relative to tuition and other school fees, the increases, thereof,
8 objections thereto, or the justifications therefor. It shall include but not be limited to
9 the holding of meetings and hearings as may be necessary to ventilate the tuition and
10 other fee issues. Pursuant thereto, all meetings or hearings conducted for
11 consultation purposes shall be properly documented and circulated.

12

13

CHAPTER V

14

RIGHT TO FREE EXPRESSION AND INFORMATION

15

AND RIGHT TO ACADEMIC FREEDOM

16

SECTION. 16. *Right to Information.* - The right of the students to information
17 on matters directly or indirectly affecting their welfare shall be recognized. Access to
18 official records and other pertinent documents and papers pertaining to official acts,
19 transactions or decisions shall be afforded the students subject only to reasonable
20 regulations that may be imposed such as time for examining the documents and
21 other papers to prevent loss or damage of the same.

22

SECTION. 17. *Freedom of Expression.* - Subject to existing laws, students
23 shall have the right to freely express their views and opinions. They shall have the
24 right to peaceably assemble and petition the government and school authorities for
25 the redress of their grievances. Pursuant thereto, no school regulation shall be
26 imposed violating or abridging the student's right to assembly.

27

Students shall have the right to print, circulate and/or mount leaflets,
28 newsletters, posters, wall news, petitions and such other materials. Pursuant thereto,
29 the school authorities shall ensure the provision of facilities such as bulletin boards
30 for the mounting of the aforementioned materials.

31

School authorities may designate a certain area on every campus as freedom
32 park where students, can freely discuss issues directly and indirectly affecting them.

33

SECTION. 18. *Student Publications.* - Students shall have the right to publish
34 student newspapers and other similar publications, print in their pages materials
35 which they deem in pursuance of their academic freedom and freedom of expression
36 in accordance with Republic Act No. 7079, otherwise known as the "Campus

1 Journalism Act of 1991." Pursuant thereto, no individual who is not a staff member of
2 the student publication shall determine its content.

3 The role of a faculty adviser in student newspapers shall be limited to technical
4 guidance.

5 The selection of the student editor-in-chief and his/her staff shall be made by
6 annual competitive examinations to be administered by an impartial Board of Judges.
7 The Board of Judges, which shall include at least one staff member, shall be
8 appointed by the head of the guidance counseling office or the student affairs office
9 from a list of nominees submitted by the existing editorial staff.

10 The editorial staff shall observe the ethics of professional journalism. It shall
11 be the responsibility of the editorial staff to ensure that the student paper is not used
12 for purposes contrary to law.

13 The editor/editorial staff shall, unless sooner revoked for cause and with due
14 process, be assured of security of tenure in the course of his/its prescribed term.

15 **SECTION. 19. Academic Freedom.** - Student's academic freedom shall
16 consist of, but not limited to, the following rights:

- 17 a. To conduct researches in connection with academic work, and to freely
18 discuss and publish their findings and recommendations;
- 19 b. To conduct inquiry within the campus in curricular and extracurricular
20 activities;
- 21 c. To choose a field of study and to pursue the quest for truth; to express
22 their opinion on any subject of public or general concern which directly or
23 indirectly affects the students or the educational system;
- 24 d. To invite off-campus speakers or resource persons to student-sponsored
25 assemblies, fora, symposia, and other activities of similar nature;
- 26 e. To express contrary interpretations or dissenting opinions inside and
27 outside the classroom;
- 28 f. To participate in the drafting of a new curriculum and in the review or
29 revision of the old;
- 30 g. To participate in the drafting and/or revising of the student handbook which
31 shall include the school rules and regulations, a copy of which shall be
32 furnished the students upon admission to the school; and

1 h. To be free from any form of indoctrination leading to imposed ideological
2 homogeneity.

3 **CHAPTER VI**

4 **RIGHT TO DUE PROCESS IN DISCIPLINARY PROCEEDINGS**

5 **SECTION. 20.** *Right to Due Process.* - a) A Student subject to disciplinary
6 proceedings shall have the right to defend himself, to be heard and to present
7 evidence on his behalf before an impartial body. There shall be a Student Disciplinary
8 Board to be composed of one (1) representative from the school administration, two
9 (2) faculty members, and two (2) students to conduct investigations into and decide
10 on cases of student violations of disciplinary standards.

11 b) The blacklisting, expulsion, suspension and other such disciplinary sanction
12 that may be taken against a student shall not be valid unless the following rights have
13 been observed and accorded the student;

- 14 1. The right to be informed in writing of the nature and cause of the
15 accusation against him;
- 16 2. The right to confront witnesses against him and to full access to the
17 evidence in the case;
- 18 3. The right to defend himself and to be defended by a representative or
19 counsel of his choice, adequate time being given him for the preparation of
20 his defense;
- 21 4. The right to a hearing before the Student Disciplinary Board;
- 22 5. The right against self incrimination; and
- 23 6. The right to appeal adverse decisions of the Student Disciplinary Board to
24 the governing board and ultimately to the appropriate education agencies.

25 c) The decision in any disciplinary proceeding must be rendered on the basis
26 of relevant and substantial evidence presented at the hearing, or at least contained in
27 the record and disclosed to the student affected.

28 The deciding body must act on its own independent consideration of the facts
29 of the case. The body should, in all controversial questions, render its decision in
30 such a manner that the issues involved, and the reasons for any decision made are
31 clear to the student.

32 d) Disciplinary sanctions shall be corrective rather than punitive or penal in
33 nature. The gravity of disciplinary sanctions must be proportionate to the seriousness
34 of the violation committed.

1 The Office of the Guidance Counselor of the respective schools shall publish
2 on a periodic basis acts which are deemed violative of the school rules and
3 regulations and the corresponding disciplinary sanctions: Provided, That such rules
4 and regulations do not violate the rights guaranteed herein and under the
5 Constitution.

6 **CHAPTER VII**
7 **OTHER RIGHTS**

8 **SECTION. 21.** *Right Against Unreasonable Searches and Seizures.* - Every
9 student shall be free from any form of unreasonable search and seizure. Except for
10 the following instances no search or seizure of a student shall be deemed valid:

11 a) Searches made at the point of ingress and egress by authorized personnel
12 of the school;

13 b) Searches and seizures of illegal article or articles falling in the plain view of
14 duly authorized personnel;

15 c) Searches and seizures of articles that are illegal, discovered inadvertently
16 by duly authorized personnel;

17 d) Searches made when the student is about to commit, is committing or has
18 just committed a crime or a serious infraction of the school's rules and regulations;

19 e) Searches made with a valid search warrant.

20 *Articles seized in violation of the here-above provided rights shall not be used*
21 *as evidence against the student in any disciplinary action that may be brought*
22 *against him.*

23 **SECTION. 22.** *Access to School Records and Issuance of Official Certificates.*
24 - Subject to the provision of the following section, every student shall have access to
25 his own school records, the confidentiality of which the school shall maintain. He shall
26 have the right to be issued official certificates, diplomas, transcript of records, grades,
27 transfer credentials and other similar documents within thirty (30) days from the filing
28 of request and accomplishment of all pertinent requirements.

29 **SECTION. 23.** *Unpaid Tuition Fees and Examinations.* - No student shall be
30 prohibited from taking a periodic or final examination because of unpaid tuition and
31 other school fees not exceeding two (2) installments under the established terms of
32 payment prescribed by the school concerned and approved by the appropriate
33 education agency.

1 Students with delinquent fees permitted to take an examination shall
2 nevertheless be subject to the right of the school concerned to withhold the release
3 or issuance of such student's school records or of the documents mentioned in the
4 preceding section or to deny such student's admission at the next succeeding
5 semester or year until the prior installments are fully paid.

6 **SECTION. 24. *Security of Tenure.*** - It shall be the right of students to finish
7 their entire courses of study in a given school, except in cases of academic
8 deficiency or violation of disciplinary regulations.

9 In cases wherein the school authorities refuse to allow a student to enroll for
10 the subsequent semester or year due to the causes hereinabove stated, the student
11 may appeal such ruling to the appropriate education agency.

12 **SECTION. 25. *Prohibition Against Involuntary Contributions.*** - Except those
13 approved by their own student organizations, all involuntary contributions shall be
14 prohibited.

15 **SECTION. 26. *Collection of Student Paper and Student Council Fees.*** - The
16 school administration, upon mutual agreement with the student paper staff and the
17 student council/government, shall assist by facilitating the collection of student paper
18 and student council fees from the students.

19 The student paper fees shall be held in trust for their unhampered use in
20 publication of the student paper.

21 The full amount of student council fees shall be turned over to the student
22 council within fifteen (15) days from the assumption of office of the Student Council
23 officers.

24 **SECTION. 27. *Privacy of Communication.*** - The privacy of communication and
25 correspondence among students shall remain inviolable.

26 **SECTION. 28. *Scholarship Grants and Privileges.*** - Opposition to school
27 policies inimical to student's interest shall not be a ground for denying or withdrawing
28 scholarship grants and privileges to deserving students.

29 **SECTION. 29. *Right to Adequate and Safe Housing/Dormitory Facilities.*** - The
30 State and the respective school authorities shall endeavor to provide the students
31 adequate, safe and clean housing facilities.

32 **SECTION. 30. *Prohibition Against Militarization of the School Campus.*** - The
33 pursuit of academic excellence and exercise of academic freedom can be attained

1 only in an atmosphere free from fear and unreasonable restraint. Pursuant thereto,
2 no military detachment shall be installed on the school campus.

3 Military elements and/or policemen in uniform or in plain clothes and school
4 security forces shall not interfere with student activities, particularly peaceful actions,
5 inside the school campus.

6 **SECTION. 31. *Firearms Ban.*** - Students shall not be allowed to carry firearms
7 inside the school campus.

8 They shall be required to deposit such firearms with the school security force
9 prior their entrance to the school premises.

10 **CHAPTER VIII**

11 **RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE STUDENTS**

12 **SECTION. 32. *Students Responsibilities.*** - Students shall have the following
13 responsibilities:

14 a) To develop their potentials to the utmost in order that they may be of
15 service to their families and society;

16 b) To strive for academic excellence and to abide by their school rules and
17 regulations pertaining to their academic responsibilities;

18 c) To exert utmost efforts toward realization of the harmonious relationship
19 with the rest of the academic community;

20 d) To participate actively in school activities including athletics and civic affairs
21 for he development of the community and the nation;

22 e) To uphold, preserve and maintain the good name of their alma matter; and

23 f) *To exercise the abovementioned rights responsibly.*

24 **CHAPTER IX**

25 **FINAL PROVISIONS**

26 **SECTION. 33. *Rules and Regulations.*** - Within ninety (90) days from the
27 approval of this Act, the DepEd, TESDA, and CHED in collaboration with the
28 representatives of national student organizations, representatives of school
29 administrations and the National Youth Commission (NYC) shall promulgate the
30 necessary rules and regulations to implement the provisions of this Act.

31 **SECTION. 34. *Administration and Enforcement.*** - National student
32 organizations and student councils/governments have the right to report to and
33 demand an investigation from the appropriate education agency into any act or acts

1 committed by school authorities and/or administrations violative of their rights as
2 provided in this Act. As such, they have the right to an impartial speedy resolution of
3 the issue.

4 Upon finding by the appropriate education agency that a particular school
5 administration has willfully and repeatedly infringed on the rights provided herein, it
6 shall cause the suspension or cancellation of the license to operate of said erring
7 school. To protect the interests of the students, the State shall, during the period of
8 suspension or upon the cancellation of license, and unless restrained by the proper
9 Court, take over the operation *Penal Provisions*. of the school.

10 **SECTION. 35.** - Any person who shall willfully interfere with, restrain or coerce
11 any student in the exercise of the rights guaranteed by this Act, or who shall in any
12 other manner commit any act to defeat any provision of this Act, shall, upon
13 conviction, be punished by a fine of not less than Ten Thousand (P10,000.00) Pesos
14 nor more than Fifty Thousand (P50,000.00) Pesos or by imprisonment for not less
15 than one year nor more than five years, or both such fine and imprisonment at the
16 discretion of the Court.

17 If the offender is an educational institution, or any juridical person, the penalty
18 shall be imposed upon the President, Treasurer, Secretary or any person or officer
19 responsible for the violation. If the offender is an alien, he shall, after service of
20 sentence, be deported immediately without further proceeding in the Bureau of
21 Immigration and Deportation (BID). If the offender is a public officer or employees,
22 the Court shall, in addition to the penalties hereinabove provided, order his dismissal
23 from the government service.

24 In addition to the penalties herein provided, the license to operate of the
25 school concerned may be suspended or cancelled by the DepEd, TESDA, or CHED
26 in accordance with Section 35 of this Act. The decision of these education agencies
27 may be appealed to the proper court.

28 **SECTION. 36.** *Separability Clause.* - If any provision of this Act is declared
29 invalid, the remainder thereof not affected thereby shall continue to be in full force
30 and effect.

31 **SECTION. 37.** *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and
32 regulations or other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this
33 Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

1 **SECTION. 38. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
2 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of
3 general circulation.

4 Approved,