

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
First Regular Session

7 OCT -3 2010

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

Senate Bill No. 1695

INTRODUCED BY HON. MANNY VILLAR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Many institutions of higher learning in the country have deteriorated to an extent that they fail to produce passers of national examinations.

To arrest this shameful state of the educational system, it is imperative to give more powers to the Commission on Higher Education so that they can adequately address this problem. The CHED at present suffers from bureaucratic infirmities. More leeway and flexibility to its mandate may give it the tools to do something about the proliferation of "diploma mills" in the country.

Approval of this Bill is, thus, requested.


MANNY VILLAR

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
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7 OCT -3 21:26

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**AN ACT PROVIDING A MECHANISM FOR GENERATING QUALITY GRADUATES
OF HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS BASED ON PERFORMANCE IN
PROFESSIONAL LICENSURE EXAMINATIONS**

*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 “Professional Examination
2 Zero-Performance Policy Act.”

3 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State
4 to constantly improve the standards of higher education in the Philippines to ensure that
5 students get the best education possible from both the public and private higher
6 education institutions.

7 In the furtherance of this policy, the State shall likewise provide for appropriate
8 safeguards to maintain the high quality of professional education by arresting the
9 perceived decline in the quality of higher education brought about by the continued
10 onslaught of commercialization of education in higher education institutions whose
11 administrations are more inclined to maximize the tuition revenues than the provision of
12 a sound and competent higher education.

13 The State shall ensure provision of quality and relevant higher education by
14 linking continued government accreditation of professional degree courses of higher
15 education institutions to the performance of their graduates in the professional board
16 examinations.

1 SEC. 3. *Zero-Performance Policy.* – Government recognition and/or permit
2 to operate pertinent and related professional courses by any higher education institution
3 whether public or private, whose graduates have registered zero-performance in any
4 professional board or bar examination in three (3) out of five (5) consecutive times they
5 participated in shall be revoked permanently.

6 SEC. 4. *Publication.* – In addition to the usual publication of individual
7 examinee results, the various professional examination boards under the Professional
8 Regulation Commission (PRC) and the Supreme Court, in case of the bar
9 examinations, are hereby required to also publish results in nationally circulated
10 newspapers showing the percentage of successful examinees from the higher
11 education institutions that participated in the examinations.

12 The Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the Professional Regulation
13 Commission (PRC) and the Supreme Court (as the case may be), shall jointly publish
14 professional examination results in nationally circulated newspapers of the top ten (10)
15 best and worst performing higher education institutions in each of the higher education
16 programs with professional licensure examinations. Further, the CHED shall likewise
17 be required to publish in nationally circulated newspapers the list of higher education
18 institutions whose government recognition and/or permit to operate pertinent and
19 related professional courses have been revoked because of zero-performance in
20 professional licensure examinations.

21 SEC. 5. *Incentives and Awards.* – The CHED shall provide incentives
22 and/or awards/recognition to higher education institutions which have consistently
23 registered best performance for five (5) consecutive years in each of the higher
24 education programs with professional licensure examinations. The necessary criteria
25 shall be set by the CHED in consultation with PRC, Supreme Court and other relevant
26 professional organizations.

27 SEC. 6. *Implementation.* – The CHED in cooperation with the PRC, or the
28 Supreme Court in case of the bar examination, shall issue the necessary rules and
29 regulations for the effective implementation of this Act and shall implement this Act:

1 *Provided*, That the implementation shall not be later than one (1) academic year after
2 the passage of this Act.

3 SEC. 7. *Appropriations.* – The amount necessary to carry out the provisions
4 of this Act shall be charged against the current year's appropriations of the CHED
5 and/or the Higher Education Development Fund (HEDF). Thereafter, such sums as
6 may be necessary for the continued implementation of the Professional Examination
7 Zero-Performance Policy Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations
8 Act: *Provided*, That incentives and/or rewards to be given to higher education
9 institutions as provided under Section 5, hereof, shall be taken from the HEDF.

10 SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, statutes, directives, orders and/or
11 presidential issuances contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act shall be
12 repealed or amended accordingly.

13 SEC. 9. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days
14 following its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in any two (2) newspapers of general
15 publication, whichever comes first.

Approved,