

SENATE

S. No. 988

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Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

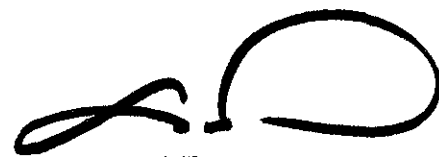
EXPLANATORY NOTE

The life of a law enforcement officer is full of danger. A great number of these gallant men and women lose their life and risk their limbs in the fulfilment of their bounden duty to maintain peace and order. The loss, most often, is magnified because the futures of their dependents are also compromised.

As recognition to the heroism of those who fall in the line of duty, this bill intends to provide educational benefits to their children and dependents who have not reached the age of majority. The benefits proposed under this measure are: tuition, and reasonable allowance for books, school supplies, transportation, clothing and food.

The benefits will be provided until the dependents have completed secondary education. It also proposed that children and dependents of those who are slain in the line of duty before the approval of this Act be included as beneficiaries.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this bill is earnestly requested.




MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID
Senator

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

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS FOR MINOR CHILDREN AND
DEPENDENTS OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS WHO ARE KILLED OR
SLAIN IN THE LINE OF DUTY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *Educational Benefits for Orphaned Minor Children and Dependents.* - Minor children and dependents of soldiers in the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP) or members of the Philippine National Police (PNP) and other law enforcement agencies, who are killed or slain in the line of duty shall be entitled to educational benefits from the time they are orphaned up to their completion of secondary education.

The benefits shall include tuition fees, reasonable allowance for books, school supplies, transportation, clothing and food.

SEC. 2. *Administration of the Education Benefits System.* - The Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines or the head of the agency concerned shall designate the officer who shall administer the educational benefit system for the orphaned minor children or dependents covered under this Act.

The Chairperson of the National Police Commission shall designate the office in the Commission which shall administer the educational benefit system for the orphaned minor children or dependents of policemen and policewomen and promulgate rules and regulations therefore.

SEC. 3. *Funds for Educational Benefits.* - There is hereby authorized to be appropriated, out of any funds in the National Treasury not otherwise appropriated, the amount of Fifty Million Pesos (Php50,000,000.00) for the educational benefits of orphaned minor children or dependents covered under this Act for the initial year of operation. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the said educational benefits shall be included in the annual appropriations of the concerned agency.

SEC. 4. *Coverage.* - This Act shall cover minor children whose father or mother were killed or slain in the line of duty prior to the approval of this Act but who are still minors upon the approval of this Act.

Beneficiaries who reach the age of majority and are unmarried while enjoying the benefits of this Act but have not completed their secondary education shall continue to be entitled to benefits until they complete secondary education.

SEC. 5. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* - The Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines and the Chairperson of the National Police Commission in consultation with all appropriate government agencies and non-government organizations shall formulate and issue the necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of this Act.

SEC. 6. *Separability Clause.* - If for any reason any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, such parts not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 7. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, orders, decrees, rules and regulations or part thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SEC. 8. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general application.

Approved,