

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

SENATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

10 JUL 12 A8 59

SENATE

S.B. 1147

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator 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

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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:

SECTION 1. Title. - This Act shall be known as the “**Professional Examination Zero-Performance Policy Act**”.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

SEC. 6. *Implementation.* - The CHED in cooperation with the PRC, or the Supreme Court in case of the bar examination, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act and shall implement this Act: Provided, That the implementation shall not be later than one (1) academic year after the passage of this Act.

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

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

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

Approved,