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SENATE  
S. No. 1551

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article XIV, Section 1 provides that:

SEC. 24. The State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all.

The advent of globalization has lead to a phenomenon called "brain drain" where our professionals, many of which are teachers work abroad to take lesser positions with better pay. Such trend resulted in shortage of teachers for students in our local schools. The most affected, however, are the students from the underprivileged communities.

By establishing an aggressive campaign, we would be able to lessen the plight of the students by providing them with competent teachers who would be willing to serve these communities for definite periods of time.

This bill seeks to establish a program that would engage the cooperation of the private sector in recruiting, training and deployment of teachers to underprivileged communities.<sup>1</sup>

*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO  
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<sup>1</sup> This bill was originally filed in the Fourteenth Congress, Second Regular Session

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

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1 AN ACT  
2 TO PROVIDE FOR RECRUITING, SELECTING, TRAINING, AND SUPPORTING A  
3 NATIONAL TEACHER CORPS IN UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES  
4

5 *Be it enacted by the Senate and the House of representatives of the Philippines in*  
6 *Congress assembled:*

7 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Teach for the Philippines  
8 Act.”

9 SECTION 2. *Purposes.* – The purposes of this Act are –

- 10 A. to raise the number of highly accomplished recent college graduates teaching in
- 11 underserved urban and rural communities in the country;
- 12 B. to increase the number of school districts and communities served by a nationally
- 13 recruited corps of outstanding new teachers; and
- 14 C. to build a broader pipeline of talented and experienced future leaders in public
- 15 education and education reform.

16 SECTION 3. *Grant* – The Secretary shall establish a program to award a grant to  
17 deserving non-government organizations, to establish a the national and regional corps of  
18 outstanding recent college graduates who shall commit to teach for 2 years in underserved  
19 communities in the country, to implement and expand a program of recruiting, selecting,  
20 training, and supporting new teachers.

21 SECTION 4. *Grant Requirements.* – In carrying out the grant program under this part, the  
22 Secretary shall enter into an agreement with the grantee under which the grantee agrees to use  
23 the grant funds—

- 1 A. to provide highly qualified teachers to high need local educational agencies in urban  
2 and rural communities; and
- 3 B. to pay the cost of recruiting, selecting, training, and supporting new teachers.

4 SECTION 5. *Authorized Activities.* – Grant funds provided under this part shall be used  
5 by the grantee to carry out each of the following activities:

- 6 A. Recruiting and selecting teachers through a highly-selective national process.
- 7 B. Providing preservice training to selected teachers through a rigorous summer institute  
8 that includes hands-on teaching experience and significant exposure to education  
9 coursework and theory.
- 10 C. Placing selected teachers in schools and positions in high need local education  
11 agencies.
- 12 D. Providing ongoing professional development activities for the selected teachers in the  
13 classroom, including regular classroom observations and feedback, and ongoing  
14 training and support.

15 SECTION 6. *Annual Report.* – The grantee shall provide to the Secretary an annual  
16 report that includes—

- 17 A. data on the number and characteristics of the teachers provided to local educational  
18 agencies through the grant under this part;
- 19 B. an externally conducted analysis of the satisfaction of local educational agencies and  
20 principals with the teachers so provided; and
- 21 C. comprehensive data on the background of the selected teachers, the training such  
22 teachers received, the placement sites of the teachers, the professional development of  
23 the teachers, and the retention of the teachers.

24 SECTION 7. *Study.* – The Secretary shall provide Congress with a study comparing the  
25 academic achievement of students taught by the teachers selected, trained, and placed under this  
26 part with the academic achievement of students taught by other teachers in the same schools and  
27 positions. The Secretary shall provide for such a study not less than once every 3 years, and each

1 such study shall include multiple local education agencies. Each such study shall meet the peer-  
2 review standards of the education research community.

3 SECTION 8. *Appropriations.* – To carry out the provisions of this Act, such amount as  
4 hereby necessary is hereby authorized to be appropriated from the National Treasury.

5 SECTION 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or  
6 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain  
7 valid and subsisting.

8 SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive  
9 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or is inconsistent  
10 with the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

11 SECTION 11. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
12 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

13 Approved,

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