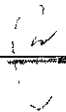


FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

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10 JUL 22 09:36

SENATE
S. No. 1872

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 11, Section 17, provides:

The State shall give priority to education, science and technology, arts, culture, and sports to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development.

Low salaries and the declining status of the teaching profession have reduced the quantity and quality of individuals entering the teaching profession. The government must expend efforts to address the existing and impending teaching shortage in the country. Bringing talented individuals into the teaching profession will greatly enhance the quality of our education, achieving success in adding the traditional education of students.

Hence, this bill seeks to establish national teacher academies in order to encourage and facilitate entry into the teaching profession.¹


MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

¹ This bill was originally filed during the Thirteenth Congress, First Regular Session

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SENATE
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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

1 AN ACT
2 ESTABLISHING NATIONAL TEACHER ACADEMIES IN ORDER TO
3 ENCOURAGE AND FACILITATE ENTRY INTO THE TEACHING PROFESSION

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

4 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "Teaching Profession Act."

5 SECTION 2. *Establishment of National Teacher Academies.* -

6 (A) *Grants.* - The Secretary of Education, hereafter referred to as the "Secretary", is
7 authorized, in accordance with the provisions of this part, to make grants to eligible recipients to
8 establish and operate national leader academies.

9 (B) *Subject Areas.* - One (1) national teacher academy shall be established in each of the
10 following subject areas commonly taught in elementary and secondary schools:

- 11 (1) Basic skills and literacy instruction;
- 12 (2) Civics and government;
- 13 (3) National Writing Project;
- 14 (4) Mathematics;
- 15 (5) Foreign languages;
- 16 (6) History, geography and sociology;
- 17 (7) Economics;
- 18 (8) Life sciences;
- 19 (9) Physical sciences, and
- 20 (10) The arts, including art, music, and the performing arts.

1 (C) *Selection of Academy Staff* - Academy staff shall be selected from the most
2 accomplished and prominent scholars in the relevant fields of study and in the methodologies
3 that prepare persons to teach in such fields of study.

4 (D) *Duration of Grant*. - Each grant to establish and operate a national teacher academy
5 shall before be for a period of five (5) years, and is renewable.

6 (E) *Competitive Grant Awards*. - The Secretary shall award grants on the basis of a
7 competitive bidding process.

8 (F) *Special Consideration*. - In awarding grants under this part the Secretary shall give
9 special consideration to eligible recipients that have demonstrated effectiveness in establishing
10 and administering a national network of individuals who assist in teacher training and in-service
11 programs in the subject areas listed in this section.

12 SECTION 3. *Eligible Recipients*. -

13 (A) *In General*. -For the purposes of this part, the term “eligible recipient” means -

14 (1) An institution of higher education;

15 (2) A private non-profit educational organization of demonstrated effectiveness;

16 or

17 (3) A combination of the institutions or organizations set forth in the paragraphs

18 (1) and (2) of this paragraph.

19 (B) *Expertise Requirements*. - The Secretary shall only award grants to eligible applicants
20 who have demonstrated expertise in the subject area of the national teaching academy to be
21 established and operated; and in-service training of teachers.

22 SECTION 4. *Use of Funds*. - Funds provided pursuant to this part shall be used to-

23 (A) Provide in-service training programs for teachers and administrators including-

24 (1) The study of subject matter, methodology, and teacher education, including

25 effective strategies for teaching all students in mixed-ability classrooms;

1 (2) The use of the most recent applied research findings concerning education and
2 the classroom; and

3 (3) Integrating materials from different disciplines into classroom instruction,
4 especially for elementary school teachers;

5 (B) Conduct at least one (1) 3-week summer institute each year;

6 (C) Train the leadership teams to provide in-service training for teachers in the
7 professional development schools established and

8 (D) Provide support services to such professional development schools including-

9 (1) The establishment of a national network of individuals to assist in teacher
10 education programs in professional development schools;

11 (2) Consulting assistance in the design and implementation of teacher education;
12 and

13 (3) Monthly newsletters or other methods of communicating useful information.

14 Not more than ten *per centum* (10%) of the amount of funds received under this part may
15 use by grant recipients for administrative costs.

16 SECTION 5. *Summer Institute Participants.* -

17 Each year a national academy conducts a summer institute to provide teacher training
18 programs to teachers and school administrators, participants from each congressional district
19 shall include the leadership team described in Section 13.

20 SECTION 6. *Application.*-

21 (A) *Application.* - Each eligible recipient desiring a grant under this part shall submit an
22 application to the Secretary at such time and in such manner as the Secretary may reasonably
23 require.

24 (B) *Contents.* - Each application submitted pursuant to paragraph (A) shall-

25 (1) Describe the activities, services, and programs for which assistance is sought;

1 (2) Describe how at least seventy per centum (70%) of the institute's time will be
2 devoted to the development of methods of instruction and the planning of in service
3 training programs to be conducted by the professional development academics
4 established in this Act; and

5 (3) Provide such additional assurances or information as the Secretary may
6 reasonably require.

7 SECTION 7. *Special rule: National Writing Project.* -

8 (A) *Authorization.* - From amounts appropriated pursuant to the authority of Section 7 for
9 the establishment and operation of the national teacher academy, the Secretary is authorized to
10 award a grant to the National Writing Project, hereafter referred to as the "grantee", a non-profit
11 educational organization which has as its primary purpose the improvement of the quality of
12 student writing as a learning process in the classrooms, to establish and operate such national
13 teacher academy.

14 (B) The National Writing Project shall use the grant awarded pursuant to paragraph (A)
15 to -

16 (1) Support and promote the establishment of teacher training programs, including
17 the dissemination of effective practices and research findings regarding the teaching of
18 writing and administrative activities;

19 (2) Support classroom research on effective teaching practice and to document
20 student performance; and

21 (3) Pay the share of the cost of such programs.

22 (C) *Grant Requirements.* - The grant awarded pursuant to paragraph (A) shall require
23 that-

24 (1) The grantee enter into contracts with institutions of higher education or other
25 non-profit educational providers, hereinafter referred to as "contractors", under which the
26 contractors will agree to establish, operate, and provide share of the cost of teacher
27 training programs in effective approaches and processes for the teaching of writing;

1 (2) Funds made available by the Secretary to the grantee pursuant to the grant
2 awarded under this section will be used to pay the share of the cost of establishing and
3 operating teacher training programs in effective approaches and processes for the
4 teaching of writing;

5 (3) The grantee will meet such other conditions and standards as the Secretary
6 determines to be necessary to assure compliance with the provisions of this section and
7 will provide such technical assistance as may be necessary to carry out the provisions of
8 this section.

9 (D) *Teacher Training Programs.* - The teacher training programs authorized in paragraph

10 (A) shall -

11 (1) Be conducted during the school year and during the summer months;

12 (2) Train teachers who teach grades kindergarten through college;

13 (3) Select teachers who teach to become members of a National Writing Project
14 teacher network whose members will conduct writing workshops for other teachers in the
15 area served by each National Writing Project site; and

16 (4) Encourage teachers from all disciplines to participate in such teacher training
17 programs.

18 (E) *Classroom Teacher Grants.* - The National Writing Project may reserve an amount
19 not to exceed five *per centum* (5%) of the amount appropriated pursuant to the authority of
20 Section 7 for the establishment and operation of the national teacher academy to make grants, on
21 a competitive basis, to elementary and secondary school teachers to enable such teachers to-

22 (1) Conduct classroom research;

23 (2) Publish models of student writing;

24 (3) Conduct research regarding effective practices to improve the teaching of
25 writing; and

26 (4) Conduct other activities to improve the teaching and uses of writing.

27 (F) *National Advisory Board.* -The National Writing Project shall establish and operate a
28 National Advisory Board. The National Advisory Board shall -

1 (1) Advise the National Writing Project on national issues related to student
2 writing and the teaching of writing;

3 (2) Review the activities and programs of the National Writing Project; and

4 (3) Support the continued development of the National Writing Project.

5 SECTION 8. *Authorization of Appropriations.* - There are authorized to be appropriated
6 such sums as may be necessary for each fiscal year to carry out the provisions of this part.

7 SECTION 9. *Professional Development Schools.* - From amounts appropriated under this
8 Act, the Secretary, in coordination with the Commission on Higher Education, hereafter referred
9 to as the "Commission", shall allot to selected State colleges or universities, in order to establish
10 and operate professional development schools.

11 SECTION 10. *Establishment and Creation of Professional Development Schools,-*

12 (A) *Duration of Grant.* - Each grant provided pursuant to this part to establish and
13 operate a professional school shall be for a period of five (5) years, and is renewable

14 (B) *Grant Awards.* - Each grant provided pursuant to this section shall be awarded on the
15 basis of a competitive bidding process, and to an eligible recipient selected on the basis of need,
16 as evidenced by measures such as the rate of teacher attrition and the proportion of the student
17 body at risk of educational failure.

18 SECTION 11. *Application.* -

19 (A) *Application.* - Each eligible recipient wishing to receive a grant under this part shall
20 submit an application to the commission, in such manner, and containing such information, as
21 the commission shall reasonably require.

22 (B) *Contents.* - Each application submitted pursuant to paragraph (A) shall-

23 (1) Describe the activities, services, and programs for which assistance is sought;

1 (2) Provide assurances that all public and private elementary and secondary
2 school teachers in the area served by the professional development school will be eligible
3 to participate in the training program;

4 (3) Contain a description of where the professional development programs will be
5 located and a justification for selecting the geographic location for each program;

6 (4) Provide assurances that professional development programs will be conducted
7 by teachers of demonstrated excellence, including teachers who have participated in
8 training programs at the National Teacher Academies;

9 (5) Provide assurances that professional development programs will be developed
10 and conducted with the participation of faculty from institutions of higher education or
11 private non-profit organizations of demonstrated effectiveness, and will be conducted in
12 both academic course content and methods of instruction and with the participation of the
13 schools' teachers and
14 administrators;

15 (6) Contain a description of how the professional development of schools'
16 activities will be coordinated with other current in-service training activities in the region;

17 (7) Describe the provisions which will be made to allow individuals release time
18 from their teaching or administrative responsibilities to participate in professional
19 development school activities;

20 (8) Contain a description of how the professional development school's activities
21 will help teachers teach all students in mixed-ability classrooms; and

22 (9) Where applicable, describe how teachers and administrators from the
23 professional development school will be involved in the teacher training programs at
24 institutions of higher education.

25 SECTION 12. *Use of Funds.* - Grants awarded to eligible recipients pursuant to this part
26 shall be used in schools best able to provide services to teachers and administrators of at risk
27 students to -

1 (A) Provide professional development programs for teachers which upgrade and
2 strengthen knowledge of academic course content, particularly in the following subject areas:

- 3 (1) Mathematics;
- 4 (2) English, reading, and language arts;
- 5 (3) Civics and government;
- 6 (4) Basic skills and literacy instruction;
- 7 (5) The arts, including art, music and the performing arts;
- 8 (6) History, geography and sociology;
- 9 (7) Economics;
- 10 (8) Life sciences; and
- 11 (9) Physical sciences.

12 (B) Improve methods of instruction in content areas to-

- 13 (1) Increase the preparedness of all classroom teachers for the participation of
14 particular populations of students, such as disadvantaged students, students with
15 disabilities, students who are limited English proficient, and students from diverse
16 cultural backgrounds, in the classroom management skills;
- 17 (2) Improve teaching and classroom management skills;
- 18 (3) Provide training in new instructional techniques, methods, and practices
19 supported by educational research findings, including instructional techniques, methods
20 and practices; and
- 21 (4) Improve teacher training in courses of study which combine one or more
22 related subject areas;

23 (C) Where appropriate, provide professional development programs for participants in
24 school-based management programs;

25 (D) Encourage teacher collaboration, especially among teachers of different subjects,
26 including vocational education, physical education, and other specialties not described in
27 paragraph (A);

28 (E) Involve experienced teachers in the training and assessment or novice teachers;

1 (F) Encourage participation in activities of a network of professional development of
2 their children;

3 (G) Provide outreach to parents and greater involvement of parents in the education of
4 their children; and

5 (H) Pay the costs of release time, stipends, college or university credit, curricular
6 materials, and other necessary expenditures.

7 SECTION 13. *Relationship with Other Programs Funded under this Act -*

8 If a national academy funded under this Act serves teachers within the jurisdiction of a
9 professional development school assisted under this part, each such professional development
10 school shall annually conduct an in-service training program in each of the course content area
11 for which teachers receive training at such national academy. Such program shall-

12 (A) Include individuals who have participated in the activities, programs, and services of
13 the appropriate national academy;

14 (B) Contain both the academic course and methods of instruction learned at such national
15 academy;

16 (C) Be available to all elementary and secondary teachers in the congressional district
17 who teach the relevant subject matter; and

18 (D) Provide at least fifty (50) teachers at least thirty (30) hours of high quality
19 instructions per year.

20 SECTION 14. *Leadership Teams. -*

21 (A) *Leadership Teams.* -Each steering committee established pursuant to section 14 shall
22 select a three-person (3) leadership team for each national teacher academy assisted under part A
23 of this title.

24 (B) *Composition.* -Each leadership team shall be composed of-

25 (1) One (1) administrator with authority to design and conduct in-service training
26 programs;

1 (2) One (1) elementary school teacher; and

2 (3) One (1) secondary school teacher.

3 (C) *Duties.* -Each leadership shall -

4 (1) Attend the appropriate subject area summer institute at the appropriate
5 national teacher academy; and

6 (2) Assist in the development and operation of professional development schools.

7 (D) *Information and Coordination.* - Each leadership team serving a professional
8 development school shall exchange information and coordinate efforts on the establishment of
9 the professional development programs.

10 SECTION 15. *Steering Committee.* -

11 (A) *Establishment.* - Each eligible recipient desiring a grant under this part shall also
12 establish a ten (10) member steering committee.

13 (B) *Composition and Representation.* - At least fifty *per centum* (50%) of the
14 membership of each steering committee shall be classroom teachers, selected by, and
15 representative of, teacher organizations, if any. The composition of each steering committee shall
16 be broadly representative of the elementary and secondary schools and the local educational
17 agencies served by the professional development school.

18 (C) *Function.* - Each steering committee shall annually select the leadership teams in
19 accordance with section 3

20 SECTION 16. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid or
21 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law of the provision not otherwise affected shall remain
22 valid and subsisting.

23 SECTION 17. *Repealing Clause.* - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
24 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or inconsistent
25 with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

1 SECTION 18. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
2 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,