

Fifteenth Congress of the Republic)
Of the Philippines)
First Regular Session)

SENATE
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

10 JUL 26 P1 24

SENATE

S.B No. 2004

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Ramon Bong Revilla, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Pursuant to Constitutional mandate of the Government to support the natural and primary right and duty of parents in the rearing of the youth for civic efficiency and the development of moral character, this bill seeks to foster parents' participation in our educational system by strengthening parents associations.

The partnership between parents, teachers, school management, the wider community and the children themselves is the key to providing the best possible education for all our children. Ultimately, strengthened parents associations will redound to the well-being of the children who will carry on the task of nation building.

In cognizance of the important part of parent associations in the development of our youth, the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.


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AN ACT
STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF PARENTS ASSOCIATIONS AND
CREATING FOR THE PURPOSE THE NATIONAL PARENT COUNCIL

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "National Parent Council Act of 2010".

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policies. - Pursuant to the Constitutional mandate that the government shall support the natural and primary right and duty of the parents in the rearing of the youth for civic efficiency and the development of moral character, it is hereby declared the objectives of this Act:

- (a) The right and duty of parents to organize themselves and form associations for the purpose of ventilating their ideas in relation to the proper and effective education of their children shall be encouraged.
- (b) Parents associations shall be strengthened and given necessary incentives in order to serve best the welfare and give outmost benefits to the children; and
- (c) The Department of Education (DepEd) shall give due recognition, importance and support to parent associations as its partner in providing accessible and quality education.

SECTION 3. Definition of Term. -For purposes of this Act, the term:

- (a) "*Parents Associations*" refer to the organization composed exclusively of parents and/or guardians of school children in the primary and secondary levels established for the purpose of ensuring the welfare of the school children and students. Existing associations with the purpose and membership but under different names shall be considered parent associations under this Act.
- (b) "*Schools*" refer to both public and private sectarian or non-sectarian educational institutions.
- (c) "*City*" refers to both chartered and non-chartered cities.

SECTION 4. Coverage. - This Act shall apply to the network of parents associations established on a per-school basis, organized at the municipality and provincial levels. As such, parents associations at all levels within a municipality or city may form a Municipal or City parents associations, and all Municipal and City parents associations within a province may form a Provincial parents association. The organization of these associations shall enable the parents to perform their role effectively for the benefit and welfare of the school children.

SECTION 5. Formation and Support of Parent Associations. - School authorities shall encourage, support and cooperate in the organization of parents associations.

Further, barangay, municipal, city and provincial officials shall provide the necessary assistance and support to parent associations especially in the implementation of their school-based activities and projects.

SECTION 6. Incentives. - To encourage parents and enable them to function productively and efficiently, they shall be accorded the following:

- (a) *Participation in Local Government Council Meetings and School Advisory Boards.* - There shall be a parent representative to the Committee on Education or its equivalent in the Sangguniang Bayan, Sangguniang Panlungsod and the Sangguniang Panlalawigan as well as to the advisory body of each school, to be elected from among the members of municipal, city and provincial parent associations respectively.
- (b) *Exemption from Taxes.* - All contributions, gifts, donations, bequests by members of the parents associations in favour of duly-approved projects that form part of the school plans shall be exempted from taxes.
- (c) *Accreditation Requirement.* - The existence of a dynamic and effective parents association in a school shall be required by qualified accrediting agencies as an evaluative criterion for the accreditation of the school.

SECTION 7. National Parent Council - To establish an effective and appropriate body for an effective and continuing coordination between the Department of Education and the parents associations nationwide, and to encourage a closer working relationship which will not only promote the welfare of the school children but also to that of the community they live in, there is hereby created a National Parent Council, hereafter referred to as Council, to be composed of representatives elected from among the Provincial Parents Associations.

Officers of the Council shall be elected from among the members.

There shall be an annual general assembly of the members to be coordinated closely with the Office of the Secretary of the DepEd.

SECTION 8. Powers and Functions. - The Council shall have the following powers and functions:

- (a) To act as an advisory body to the DepEd and as such shall be attached to the Office of the Secretary for effective liaison and coordination;

- (b) To participate in the formulation of national guidelines as it refers to policies and procedures governing school fees, visual aids and practical application for curricular activities;
- (c) To assist, thru the municipality and provincial associations, the appropriate DepEd regional, provincial or municipal office in monitoring, overseeing and evaluating the implementation of school infrastructure projects;
- (d) To provide nationwide forum wherein the views of parents on relevant issues can be deliberated upon before these are brought to appropriate bodies for action;
- (e) To be an effective link between the DepEd and all agencies that deal with matters pertinent to schools.
- (f) To create such specialized committees and appoint members not only from within the Council but also from the municipal, city or provincial parents associations to help address successfully specific concerns; and
- (g) To request cooperation of any barangay, municipal, city, provincial or national official on any matter deemed necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

SECTION 9. National Parents Association Week - There is hereby declared a National Parents Association Week to be held during the first week of February if every year in order to highlight and give recognition to the achievements and importance of parents associations in their role in giving accessible and quality education to the children.

Appropriation activities nationwide which will include the holding of the Annual General Assembly of the National Parent Council shall be undertaken and drawn up by the Council.

Expenses relevant to these activities, including the organization of an assembly, secretariat services, and attendance of members, speakers and guest shall be charged to the Department of Education budget.

SECTION 10. Appropriations. - An annual regular appropriation of P500,000.00 shall be included in the annual budget of the Department of Education exclusively for the implementation of this Act.

SECTION 11. The Role of the DepEd. - The DepEd shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) to carry out the objectives of this Act.

SECTION 12. Repealing Clause. - All laws, presidential decrees, executive and administrative orders inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 13. Effectivity. - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette.

Approved,