## FIFTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC ) OF THE PHILIPPINES )

Senatr Office of the Ferretary

Second Regular Session

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Senate of the Philippines

Senate Bill No. 2910

RECEIVED BY:

### INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

### **EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Our government has the innate duty to promote the welfare of house helpers who are considered one of the vulnerable groups among the workers in our society. It is a glaring truth that most domestic or house helps fail to obtain proper education, not because they don't want to, but mainly due to the nature of their work and their low income.

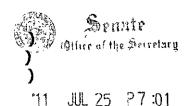
This act is based on the premise that it is the policy of the State to give priority to EDUCATION, science and technology, arts, culture, and sports to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development. Our Constitution further affirms labor as a primary social economic force and it shall protect the rights of workers and promote their WELFARE.

Hence, with the state policies being the premise, it is high time that our house helpers' social welfare and personal improvement be effectively sought and recognized by providing them proper education, through the approval of this bill.

JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA Senator

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#### INTRODUCED BY SEN. JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA

# AN ACT GRANTING SCHOLARSHIPS TO HOUSEHOLD HELPERS AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. This Act shall be known as the "Household Helpers Scholarship Act of 2011."

SEC. 2. Scope. – This shall cover all qualified household helpers as defined in the Labor Code of the Philippines.

Under the Labor Code, domestic or household helpers are those who render service in the employer's home which is usually necessary or desirable for the maintenance and enjoyment thereof and includes ministering to the personal comfort and convenience of the members of the employer's household, including services of, but not limited to, babysitter, gardener, yaya, cleaning lady, laundry woman, and the like.

- SEC. 3. Scholarship Grant. All government-owned educational institutions shall provide scholarship grants to deserving household helpers which shall include free tuition fee, subsidies and other incentives: Provided, that all household helpers who apply for said scholarship program should pass a screening process to be instituted by the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), State Universities and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).
- SEC. 4. Tuition fee discount The discount to be granted to qualified and deserving household helpers under this Act who enroll in private educational institutions shall be sixty percent (60%) of the prescribed tuition fee.

As used in this Act, the term tuition fee shall refer to the cost fof instruction per unit of courses enrolled by a student, especially in a formal institution of learning.

- SEC. 5. Exemption from Miscellaneous fee all qualified household workers shall be exempted from the payment of Miscellaneous fees charged by the schools.
- SEC. 6. Availment The privilege under this Act may be availed in any government-owned educational institution.

The benefits must be claimed at the time of enrollment by presenting an authentic certification signed by the employer stating that the enrollee renders household services to him/her. The concerned institution may be allowed to summon the employer for verification purposes.

- SEC. 7. Guidelines for Implementation The Department of Labor and the Department of Education shall jointly formulate guidelines for the availment of benefits under this Act.
- SEC. 8. Appropriations. The amount necessary for the effective implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations of the government-owned educational institution concerned. The Department of Education may augment the funds necessary for the proper enforcement of this Act.
- SEC. 9. Repealing Clause. Any provision of law, decree, order, rule or regulations in conflict or inconsistent with provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.
- SEC. 10. Effectivity This Act shall take effect 15 days after publication in at least two (2) national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,