

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



'13 JUL 18 P4:10

SENATE
S. No. 935

RECORDED BY: *ji*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 14, Section 2 (1) provides that:

SEC.2(1). The State shall establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society.

Many children with special needs are in regular education classrooms due to lack of special schools for them. As children with special needs are mainstreamed, it is critical that they are placed in the least restrictive environment appropriate to their needs and that their teachers in regular classrooms have an understanding of their special needs.

Hence, this bill seeks to establish a comprehensive training program for teachers of children with special needs.*

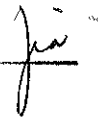
Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
all

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



'13 JUL 18 P4:10

SENATE
S. No. 935

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

1 AN ACT
2 ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE TRAINING PROGRAM
3 FOR TEACHERS OF CHILDREN WITH SPECIAL NEEDS
4

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

5 SECTION 1. *Short Title.* – This Act shall be known as the “Teachers of Children with
6 Special Needs Enhancement Act.”

7 SECTION 2. *Program Authorized.* – The Secretary of Education is authorized to make
8 grants in accordance with this Act to carry out activities and programs designed to increase the
9 preparedness of mainstream classroom teachers for the preparation of children with special needs
10 in such classrooms through training programs.

11 For purposes of this Act, “children with special needs” shall refer to children who are
12 disabled, impaired, or handicapped in need of special education as well as services for
13 rehabilitation. They differ from the average child in mental characteristics, sensory abilities,
14 neuro-muscular or physical characteristics, multiple handicaps, and/or a developmental lag to
15 such an extent that requires modified school practices or special education services to develop
16 their maximum capabilities.

17 SECTION 3. *Use of Funds.* – Funds provided pursuant to this Act shall be used to make
18 grants to state universities which shall be required to put up special training program for teachers
19 of children with special needs.

1 SECTION 4. *Special Program Curriculum.* – The Secretary of Education, in coordination
2 with the Commission on Higher Education, shall prescribe the special program curriculum to be
3 offered in state universities offering training programs. The special program curriculum shall
4 include special courses on child psychology, teach the substance and teaching skills associated
5 with handling of children with special needs, develop special materials and methods, conduct
6 pilot and demonstration projects, and involve participation of experts in child psychology in the
7 provision of special activities designed to enhance the teaching skills of teachers of children with
8 special needs.

9 SECTION 5. *Application Required.* – Each entity desiring a grant under this Act shall
10 submit an application to the Secretary, at such time and in such manner accompanied by such
11 information as the Secretary may reasonably require.

12 SECTION 6. *Appropriations.* – There shall be appropriated such sums as may be
13 necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act.

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

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

20 SECTION 9. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
21 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,