

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



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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: *ja*

S. NO. 1129

Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Article XIV, Section 1 of the 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall protect and promote the right of all the citizens of our country to quality education at all levels. However, despite this provision and numerous other laws that seek to promote good quality education, our country still lags behind our neighbors in Asia when it comes to providing good quality education.

Recent surveys indicate that there has been a decline in the academic performance of Filipino school children particularly in the field of science and mathematics. This decline may be due to the high teacher-student ratio, poor facilities, lack of textbooks, or lack of expertise or knowledge of teachers with the subjects they are teaching.

In line with our Constitutional provision on good quality education, this bill seeks to create an Academic Excellence Foundation which shall promote academic excellence in public and private schools all over the country through public-private entity partnerships. The Foundation shall develop programs that shall push for the advancement of the concept of academic excellence.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is earnestly sought.

ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV
Senator



13 JUL 29 19:03

SENATE

S. NO. 1129

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Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION TO PROMOTE
ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1. Title.** - This Act shall be known as the "*Academic Excellence Act of 2013.*"

2
3 **SEC. 2. The Academic Excellence Foundation.** - There is hereby created the Philippine
4 Academic Excellence Foundation whose purpose shall be to promote academic excellence in
5 public and private schools all over the country through public-private entity partnerships. The
6 foundation shall be a non-profit organization. The board of directors of the foundation and
7 foundation activities shall be under the direction of the Department of Education (DepEd).

8
9 **SEC. 3. Board of Directors of the Foundation.** - The board of directors of the foundation
10 shall consist of the Secretary of DepEd and twenty (20) other members to be appointed by the
11 President. Of the twenty (20) members appointed by the President, eight (8) shall represent a
12 variety of education groups and twelve (12) shall represent a variety of business groups. The
13 members of the board of directors shall select one member to serve as chair. The DepEd
14 Secretary shall serve as secretary for the board of directors and provide administrative support to
15 the foundation. An executive committee of the foundation board, composed of the board officers
16 and chairs of board committees, may only advise and make recommendations to the foundation
17 board.

1 **SEC. 4. Programs of the Foundation.** - The foundation may develop programs
2 that advance the concept of educational excellence. These may include, but are not
3 limited to:

- 4 (a) recognition programs and awards for students demonstrating academic
5 excellence;
- 6 (b) summer institute programs for students with special talents;
- 7 (c) recognition programs for teachers, administrators, and others who contribute
8 to academic excellence;
- 9 (d) summer mentorship programs with business and industry for students with
10 special career interests and high academic achievements;
- 11 (e) President's awards ceremonies and special campaigns to promote awareness
12 and expectation for academic achievement;
- 13 (f) an academic league to provide organized challenges requiring cooperation and
14 competition for public and private pupils in elementary and secondary
15 schools;
- 16 (g) systemic transformation initiatives and assistance and training to community
17 teams to increase school performance in the country's education institutions
18 through strategic quality planning for continuous improvement, empowerment
19 of multiple stakeholders, validation of results via customer-supplier
20 relationships, and a total system approach based on best practices in key
21 process areas; and
- 22 (h) activities to measure customer satisfaction for delivery of services to
23 education institutions in order to plan for and implement continuous
24 improvement.

25
26 To the extent possible, the foundation shall make these programs available to
27 students in all parts of the country.

28
29 **SEC. 5. Powers and Duties of the Foundation.** - The foundation may:

- 30 (1) establish and collect membership fees;
- 31 (2) publish brochures or booklets relating to the purposes of the foundation and
32 collect reasonable fees for the publications thereof;
- 33 (3) receive money, grants, and in-kind goods or services from non-governmental
34 sources for the purposes of the foundation;
- 35 (4) contract with consultants;

1 (5) expend money for awards and other forms of recognition and appreciation;
2 and

3 (6) determine procedures and expenditures for awards and recognitions to
4 teachers, students, donors, and other people who are not employees of the executive
5 branch.

6
7 **SEC 6. Contracts.** - The foundation board shall review and approve each contract
8 of the board. Each contract of the foundation board shall be subject to the same review
9 and approval procedures as a contract of the Department of Education.

10
11 **SEC. 7. Foundation Staff.** - (a) The foundation board with review by the DepED
12 Secretary shall appoint the executive director and other staff who shall perform duties
13 and have responsibilities solely related to the foundation.

14 (b) As part of the annual plan of work, the foundation, with review by the DepEd
15 Secretary, may appoint up to three (3) employees. The employees appointed under this
16 paragraph shall not be considered an employee of the government. The employees shall
17 be supervised by the executive director.

18
19 **SEC. 8. Private Sources of Funds.** - The foundation shall seek private resources
20 to supplement the available public money. Individuals, businesses, and other
21 organizations may contribute to the foundation in any manner specified by the board of
22 directors. All money received shall be administered by the board of directors.

23
24 **SEC. 9. Report.** - The board of directors of the foundation shall submit an annual
25 report to the Secretary of the Department of Education on the progress of its activities.
26 The annual report shall contain a financial report for the preceding year, including all
27 receipts and expenditures of the foundation.

28
29 **SEC. 10. Separability Clause.** - If any provisions, or part hereof, is held invalid
30 or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law of the provision not otherwise affected shall
31 remain valid and subsisting.

32
33 **SEC. 11. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and
34 regulations inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed, amended or modified
35 accordingly.

1 **SEC. 12. *Effectivity Clause.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days
2 following its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) national
3 newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,