

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



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SENATE  
S. No. 1248

RECEIVED BY: *ja*

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 14, Section 1 provides that:

SEC. 1. The State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all.

In Section 5, paragraph 5 of the same article, the Constitution further mandates that:

SEC. 2. The State shall:

(4) The State shall enhance the right of teachers to professional advancement. Non-teaching academic and non-academic personnel shall enjoy the protection of the State;

In the wake of the recent concerns raised as to the decline of education in our country,<sup>1</sup> it is imperative that we enact laws that improve the level of education in our country as we move towards globalization. The ability of a school or district to improve teaching and raise student achievement is greatly dependent on the quality of leadership. Quality leadership can only be achieved if potential leaders are provided with the necessary support, professional development, and resources.

This bill seeks to improve the quality of our education by improving the quality of the school leadership.<sup>2</sup>

*Miriam Defensor Santiago*  
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO

<sup>1</sup> Quismundo, Tarra. "Ramos on RP education: It's going to get worse." *Philippine Daily Inquirer*. 16 July 2008.  
<sup>2</sup> This bill was originally filed in the Fourteenth Congress, Second Regular Session.



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SENATE  
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1 AN ACT  
2 PROVIDING GRANTS TO ELIGIBLE CONSORTIA TO PROVIDE PROFESSIONAL  
3 DEVELOPMENT TO SUPERINTENDENTS, PRINCIPALS, AND PROSPECTIVE  
4 SUPERINTENDENTS AND PRINCIPALS

*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 “Investment in Quality School  
6 Leadership Act.”

7 SECTION 2. *Purpose.* – The purposes of this Act are—

8 (A) To provide ongoing, intensive professional development to superintendents,  
9 principals, and prospective superintendents and principals, particularly those serving, or  
10 intending to serve, in high-poverty, low-performing school districts and schools;

11 (B) To improve the capacity of current and prospective superintendents and principals  
12 to serve as effective leaders and successfully implement standards-based reforms;

13 (C) To encourage the recruitment and retention of quality school leaders at the  
14 district- and school-level by enabling them to further develop their skills and knowledge; and

15 (D) To recognize and support the importance of principals and superintendents in  
16 facilitating student learning and improving academic achievement.

17 SECTION 3. *Grants.* – From the amounts appropriated to carry out this Act and not  
18 reserved under Section 9 for any fiscal year, the Secretary of Education (in this Act referred to as  
19 the “Secretary”) shall award grants to eligible consortia to establish professional development  
20 programs described in Section 4.

1           SECTION 4. *Professional Development.* – A program referred to in Section 3 shall serve  
2 a province or region and provide superintendents, principals, and prospective superintendents  
3 and principals, particularly those serving, or intending to serve, in high-poverty, low-performing  
4 school districts and schools, with ongoing, intensive professional development opportunities to  
5 improve their capacity to serve as effective leaders and successfully implement standards-based  
6 reforms.

7           SECTION 5. *Awards Basis.* – The Secretary shall award grants on a competitive basis to  
8 eligible applicants. In awarding grants under this Act, the Secretary shall give priority to  
9 consortia in which the local educational agency participating in the consortium serves the highest  
10 concentration of children living in poverty.

11           SECTION 6. *Eligibility.*

12           (A) *Required Participants-* In order to receive a grant under this Act, a consortium  
13 shall include not less than--

14                   (1) one local educational agency serving a high concentration of children living in  
15                   poverty;

16                   (2) one institution of higher education; and

17                   (3) one organization that does not usually provide educational services, but has  
18                   the necessary expertise to provide professional development to school  
19                   administrators.

20           (B) *Other Participants-* An eligible consortium may also include--

21                   (1) one or more additional local educational agencies;

22                   (2) provincial educational agencies;

23                   (3) for-profit organizations with the expertise to provide professional  
24                   development to school administrators; and

25                   (4) public or private nonprofit organizations with the expertise to provide  
26                   professional development to school administrators.

1           SECTION 7. *Application.* – In order to receive an award under this Act, an eligible  
2 applicant shall submit an application to the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and  
3 containing such information as the Secretary may require.

4           Each such application shall include--

5           (A) information demonstrating that the applicant shall meet the matching requirement  
6 of Section 9; and

7           (B) a description of the involvement of superintendents and principals in developing  
8 the application.

9           SECTION 8. *Appropriations. – Use of Funds—*

10          (A) *Required Uses* - A consortium that receives a grant under this Act shall use the  
11 grant funds to establish or expand a leadership development program described as follows:

12           (1) The program referred to in Section 7 (A) shall provide superintendents,  
13 principals, and prospective superintendents and principals, particularly  
14 individuals serving, or intending to serve, in high-poverty, low-performing  
15 schools and school districts, with ongoing, intensive professional development  
16 opportunities through activities that increase the knowledge and skills of  
17 participants in such areas as--

18           (a) effective instructional practices;

19           (b) the content of the educational standards and supporting implementation of  
20 the standards in the classroom;

21           (c) comprehensive whole-school reform approaches and programs;

22           (d) the effective use of educational technology to improve teaching and  
23 learning;

24           (e) the recruitment, assignment, retention, and evaluation of school staff;

25           (f) the enhancement and development of management and organizational  
26 skills;

27           (g) leadership skills;

28           (h) the effective use of data for decisionmaking; and

1 (i) the implementation of school-based leadership teams.

2 (B) *Additional Uses*- A consortium that receives a grant under this Act may also use  
3 the grant funds to support--

4 (1) the recruitment and preparation of prospective principals and superintendents,  
5 including candidates with leadership and managerial experience in fields other  
6 than education; and

7 (2) *alternative pathways to administrative positions.*

8 SECTION 9. *Matching Requirement.* – Each recipient of a grant under this Act shall  
9 provide not less than fifty (50) percent of the annual cost of the project assisted by the grant from  
10 sources other than this Act. A grantee's share of such costs may be provided in cash or in kind,  
11 fairly evaluated.

12 The Secretary may waive the matching requirement under this Section with respect to  
13 applicants that the Secretary determines serve low-income areas.

14 SECTION 10. *Reservation.* – The Secretary may reserve not more than four (4) percent  
15 of the amount appropriated for each fiscal year for technical assistance, evaluation, dissemination  
16 of information on effective programs for preparing and training district and school-level  
17 administrators, carrying out activities to encourage the spread and adoption of successful  
18 leadership development centers, and other national activities that support the programs under this  
19 Act.

20 SECTION 11. *Existing Programs.* – The Secretary shall, in consultation with  
21 representatives of local educational agencies, national educational agencies, institutions of higher  
22 education, superintendents, principals, education organizations, community groups, business, and  
23 labor, conduct a study to evaluate and report to Congress regarding existing professional  
24 development programs that recruit, prepare, and train district- and school-level administrators to  
25 serve as effective leaders and successfully implement standards-based reforms in diverse  
26 educational environments across the nation.

1           The Secretary shall submit a report to Congress not later than one (1) year after the date  
2 of enactment of this Act regarding the findings of the study conducted under this Section.

3           SECTION 12. *Program Report.* – The Secretary shall submit to Congress a report not  
4 later than one (1) year after the initial implementation of this Act regarding the effectiveness of  
5 professional development programs, established pursuant to this Act, to recruit and retain  
6 principals and superintendents.

7           SECTION 13. *Appropriations.* – To carry out the provisions of this Act, such amount as  
8 is necessary is hereby authorized to be appropriated from the National Treasury.

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

12           SECTION 15. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive  
13 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to or is inconsistent  
14 with the provision of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or amended accordingly.

15           SECTION 16. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
16 publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,