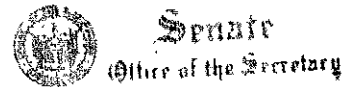
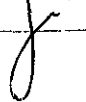


SIXTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC )  
OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
Second Regular Session )



'14 DEC 10 A9:10

SENATE  
S.B. No. 2505

RECEIVED BY: 

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Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

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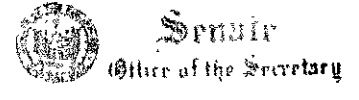
AN ACT  
PROVIDING FOR THE SERVICES OF A DEVELOPMENTAL-BEHAVIORAL  
PEDIATRICIAN IN EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY WITH A SPECIAL  
EDUCATION PROGRAM IN THEIR PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AND PROVIDING  
FUNDS THEREOF

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In 1992, Republic Act 7277 or the Magna Carta for Disabled Persons was passed. In consonance with this, the institutionalization of special needs education was forwarded in order to provide access to basic education among learners with special needs. However, the provision of a special education program is not enough. Before it can even be undertaken, it is crucial to identify the special needs of each learner so that specific interventions can be furnished and proper educational placement can be undertaken. Although current laws and department orders mandate pre-assessment and post assessment of each learner with special needs, the persons required to do - special education teachers and psychologists - are limited by their respective educational attainment. Thus, in order to correctly evaluate and identify the condition of a learner with special needs and provide individualized treatment for each, it is crucial that the evaluation is conducted by a developmental-behavioral pediatrician.

This bill aims to address the foregoing by providing for the services of a developmental-behavioral pediatrician in every city and municipality with a special education program in its public schools. It is important to clarify that this bill only provides for the services and not for the full time employment of a developmental-behavioral pediatrician. This is because of their limited number in the country. Currently, there are less than fifty developmental-behavioral pediatricians all over the Philippines. As such, in order to make do with and maximize the available resources, it is but practical that the bill only provides for their services and not for their full time employment.

  
MANUEL "LITO" M. LAPID



SENATE  
S.B. No. 2505

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RECEIVED BY: *J.*

Introduced by Senator Manuel "Lito" M. Lapid

**AN ACT**  
**PROVIDING FOR THE SERVICES OF A DEVELOPMENTAL-BEHAVIORAL**  
**PEDIATRICIAN IN EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY WITH A SPECIAL**  
**EDUCATION PROGRAM IN THEIR PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AND PROVIDING FUNDS**  
**THEREOF**

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

1 **SECTION 1. DECLARATION OF POLICY.** - The Constitution recognizes the key role of  
2 education in society. It is the duty of the State to give priority to education. In addition to  
3 this, the state shall promote and maintain equality of access to education as well as the  
4 enjoyment of the benefits of education by all its citizens regardless of sex, age, creed, socio-  
5 economic status, physical and mental condition, social or ethnic origin, political and other  
6 affiliation.

7  
8 **SECTION 2. SCOPE.** - This law shall apply to all cities and municipalities in the Philippines  
9 with a special education program in their public schools.

10  
11 **SECTION 3. DEFINITION OF TERMS.** - The following terms used in this Act are hereby  
12 defined:

- 13  
14 a. Learner with special needs refer either to  
15 i. children or adults with identified disability, health, or mental health conditions  
16 requiring early intervention, special education services, or other specialized  
17 services and supports who are part of a special education program in a public  
18 school; or  
19 ii. children or adults without identified conditions, but requiring specialized  
20 services, supports, or monitoring who are part of a special education program  
21 in a public school;  
22  
23 b. A developmental-behavioral pediatrician is a person who has a license to practice  
24 medicine, finished three years of training in pediatrics, has a board certification in

1       pediatrics, and has additional subspecialty training in developmental-behavioral  
2       pediatrics, and the certification for it;

3  
4       c. Special education programs in public schools are those established by the Department  
5       of Education for the implementation of a nationwide special education program  
6       pursuant to Republic Act 7277 or the Magna Carta of Disabled Persons;

7  
8       d. Special education refers to the education of persons who are gifted or talented and  
9       those who have physical, mental, social or sensory impairment and cultural differences  
10      that require modification of the school curricula, programs and special services and  
11      physical facilities to enable them to develop themselves to their maximum capacity.  
12      These persons include those with cognitive deficits, visually impaired, hearing  
13      impaired, with behavioral problems, orthopedically handicapped, with special health  
14      problems, learning disabled, speech impaired or multiple handicapped.

15  
16   **SECTION 4. SERVICES OF A DEVELOPMENTAL-BEHAVIORAL PEDIATRICIAN. -**

17   Each city or municipality shall engage the services of a developmental-behavioral  
18   pediatrician at the start of every academic year.

19  
20   **SECTION 5. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE DEVELOPMENTAL-BEHAVIORAL**  
21   **PEDIATRICIAN. -** The developmental-behavioral pediatrician shall perform the following

22   services:

23  
24      a. Evaluate every learner with special needs at the start of every academic year;

25  
26      b. Prepare an evaluation including a recommended program for every learner with  
27      special needs at the start of every academic year;

28  
29      c. Meet and explain the evaluation and recommendation to the special education  
30      teachers, school staff, and parents or guardians of each learner with special needs at  
31      the start of every academic year.

32  
33   **SECTION 6. COMPENSATION. -** The developmental-behavioral psychiatrist shall receive a  
34   compensation of not less than Five Hundred pesos (Php 500.00) per learner with special  
35   needs evaluated. Half of the total amount shall be charged to the annual appropriations of  
36   the Department of Education, while the remaining half shall be charged to the annual  
37   appropriations of the City or Municipality where the public school with a special education  
38   program is located.

1 **SECTION 7. ALLOCATION OF FUNDS.** - The amount necessary for the initial  
2 implementation of this Act shall be charged to the appropriations of the Department of  
3 Education. Thereafter, half of the amount necessary for the continued services of a  
4 developmental-behavioral psychiatrist shall be included in the annual budget of the city or  
5 municipality where the public school with a special education program is located, while the  
6 remaining half shall be included in the annual budget of the Department of Education.

7  
8 **SECTION 8. IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS.** - The Department of  
9 Education shall promulgate rules and regulations necessary to implement the provisions  
10 under this law.

11  
12 **SECTION 9. SEPARABILITY CLAUSE.** - If any provision or part of this Act shall be  
13 declared invalid or unconstitutional, the remaining parts or provisions not affected shall  
14 remain in full force and effect.

15  
16 **SECTION 10. REPEALING CLAUSE.** - All laws, decrees, executive orders, issuances, rules  
17 and regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby  
18 repealed or modified accordingly.

19  
20 **SECTION 11. EFFECTIVITY CLAUSE.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
21 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*