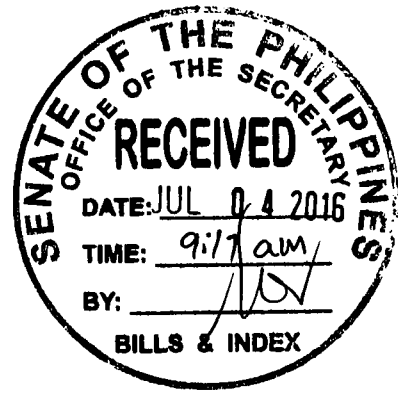


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*First Regular Session* )

SENATE  
S. No. 285



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Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

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AN ACT  
GRANTING EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE AND BENEFITS TO THE  
DEPENDENTS OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE  
PHILIPPINES (AFP), PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP), BUREAU OF FIRE  
PROTECTION (BFP), BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY  
(BJMP), NATIONAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (NBI), PHILIPPINE DRUG  
ENFORCEMENT AGENCY (PDEA), PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD (PCG) AND  
BUREAU OF CORRECTIONS (BUCOR) WHO ARE KILLED OR PERMANENTLY  
INCAPACITATED WHILE IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTY OR BY  
REASON OF THEIR OFFICE OR POSITION

#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

Uniformed personnel from the AFP, PNP, BFP, BJMP, NBI, PDEA, PCG, and BuCor go through life-threatening tasks – they are consistently at risk of getting killed or injured. Thus, the government should give them extra incentives for their exceptional dedication by extending help to the needs of the family members of those who are killed or permanently incapacitated in line of duty. The least that the government can provide for their families is to give them help in terms of educational assistance and benefits.

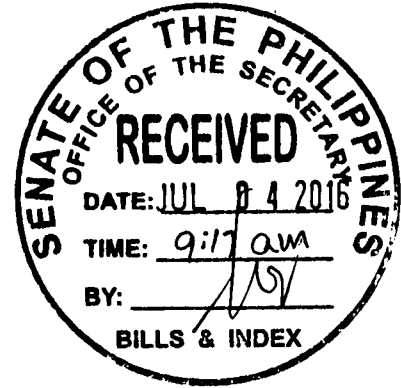
Hence, this bill seeks to give educational assistance and benefits to the dependents or surviving children of those deceased or permanently incapacitated members of the above mentioned uniformed personnel. Dependents are automatically and without qualification be granted full scholarship from elementary to tertiary level in a non-exclusive institution. Said scholarship shall include payment of tuition and miscellaneous fees, allowance for books and school supplies, and allowance for food and transportation.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

  
ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV  
*Senator*

SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
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AN ACT

GRANTING EDUCATIONAL ASSISTANCE AND BENEFITS TO THE DEPENDENTS OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE ARMED FORCES OF THE PHILIPPINES (AFP), PHILIPPINE NATIONAL POLICE (PNP), BUREAU OF FIRE PROTECTION (BFP), BUREAU OF JAIL MANAGEMENT AND PENOLOGY (BJMP), NATIONAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION (NBI), PHILIPPINE DRUG ENFORCEMENT AGENCY (PDEA), PHILIPPINE COAST GUARD (PCG) AND BUREAU OF CORRECTIONS (BUCOR) WHO ARE KILLED OR PERMANENTLY INCAPACITATED WHILE IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTY OR BY REASON OF THEIR OFFICE OR POSITION

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

1           **SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “*Uniformed Personnel*  
2 *Educational Assistance and Benefits Act of 2016*”.

3  
4           **SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is hereby declared policy of the State to  
5 recognize the vital role of the members of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP),  
6 Philippine National Police (PNP), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), Bureau of Jail  
7 Management and Penology (BJMP), National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), Philippine Drug  
8 Enforcement Agency (PDEA), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG) and Bureau of Corrections  
9 (BuCor) in the maintenance of peace and public order in our country and to ensure that the  
10 dependents of those who are killed in action or are permanently incapacitated while in the  
11 performance of their duty or by reason of their office or position are provided with  
12 educational assistance and benefits.

13  
14           **SECTION 3. Permanent incapacity; Definition.** – Permanent Incapacity shall refer  
15 to physical or mental ill-health or infirmity which is: (i) permanent, (ii) prevents a member  
16 from pursuing his normal employment, and (iii) seriously impairs his earning capacity.

17  
18           **SECTION 4. Grant of Educational Assistance and Benefits.** – All the surviving  
19 children of the members of the AFP, PNP, BFP, BJMP, NBI, PDEA, PCG and BuCor who  
20 are killed or permanently incapacitated while in the performance of their duty or by reason of  
21 their office or position shall automatically and without qualification be extended full  
22 scholarship from elementary to tertiary level whether baccalaureate, formal or non-formal  
23 education or training program in a non-exclusive school or institution. The scholarship  
24 privilege shall include, but shall not be limited to, payment of tuition and miscellaneous fees,  
25 allowance for books and school supplies and allowance for food and transportation.

1           **SECTION 5. *Uniformed Personnel Scholarship Board.*** – The scholarship funds  
2 collected hereunder shall be managed and administered by an inter-agency scholarship board  
3 to be known as the Uniformed Personnel Scholarship Board, which shall be created and  
4 formally organized within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act. The Board shall be  
5 composed of the Secretary of the Department of the Interior and Local Government and  
6 Secretary of the Department of National Defense as Co-chairmen and one (1) member each to  
7 represent the AFP, PNP, BFP, BJMP, NBI, PDEA, PCG and BuCor.  
8

9           The Board shall serve as the policy making body vested with the authority to come-up  
10 with the mechanics, scope and limitations, and requirements for scholarship program  
11 pursuant to the objectives of this Act. The Board shall, however, delegate the responsibility to  
12 implement the screening, admission, disqualification and other scholarship-related availment  
13 processes to the respective scholarship bodies of the AFP, PNP, BFP, BJMP, NBI, PDEA,  
14 PCG and BuCor, in accordance with the guidelines to be prescribed by the Board.  
15

16           **SECTION 6. *Authority to accept donations; Tax Exemption.*** – The Board shall  
17 have the authority to accept donations, contributions, grants in cash or in kind, from  
18 appropriate sources, domestic or foreign. Said donations shall be used exclusively to  
19 complement the funding requirements of the scholarship program subject to the existing  
20 government accounting and auditing rules and regulations; Provided, That any donation,  
21 contribution or financial aid which may be made to the Board shall be exempt from taxes of  
22 any kind and shall constitute allowable deductions in full from the income of the donors,  
23 contributors or givers for income tax purposes. Furthermore, the Board is authorized to invest  
24 so much of the idle funds as may be necessary for the purpose of generating additional  
25 revenue for the benefit of the scholarship program.  
26

27           **SECTION 7. *Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary to fund the educational  
28 assistance and benefits specified above shall be included in the respective annual budgets of  
29 the AFP, PNP, BFP, BJMP, NBI, PDEA, PCG and BuCor to be enacted as part of the annual  
30 General Appropriations Act; Provided, That any deficiencies in the financial requirements  
31 may be taken from savings on the personal services of the AFP, PNP, BFP, BJMP, NBI,  
32 PDEA, PCG and BuCor and the Miscellaneous Personnel Benefits Funds (MPBF); Provided,  
33 further, That the Uniformed Personnel Scholarship Board may, consistent with Sec. 5 of this  
34 Act, identify, develop and/or generate additional sources of funds to further support this  
35 scholarship program.  
36

37           **SECTION 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – The Uniformed Personnel  
38 Scholarship Board herein created shall formulate and issue, within sixty (60) days from its  
39 creation, the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act.  
40

41           **SECTION 9. *Separability Clause.*** – If any provision or part hereof is held illegal,  
42 invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected  
43 shall remain valid and subsisting.  
44

45           **SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause.*** – Presidential Decree No. 577 is hereby repealed.  
46 RA 6963 and all other laws, presidential decrees or issuances, executive orders, letters of  
47 instruction, administrative orders, rules and regulation or parts thereof which are contrary to  
48 or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended  
49 accordingly.

1           **SECTION 11. *Effectivity Clause.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after  
2 its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation in the country or  
3 in the Official Gazette.

*Approved,*