

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

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SENATE

S. No. 537

Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

AN ACT
ESTABLISHING THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY TO
ADMINISTER ALL MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES DEALING
WITH ACADEMIC ACCOUNTABILITY FOR EACH SCHOOL OR SCHOOL
DISTRICT, AND TO REPORT ACADEMIC PROGRESS, AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is in the interest of the people and the future of our nation that each student receives a high quality of education. Section I, Article XIV of the Constitution provides that 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. Further, Section (2)(1) of the same mandates that the State shall establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and the society. Thus, the improvement of public's access to public school performance indicators, and the benefits of the increasing public investment in the Philippines' schools is just but necessary, especially that most of the Filipino students are falling behind those in other countries.

This bill seeks to create the Division of Public School Accountability which shall administer all monitoring and compliance activities dealing with academic accountability for each school or school district and to report academic progress. The presence of such shall hold each of the country's public schools accountable for the academic progress of each student. Further, this proposed measure shall bring forth a comprehensive system to hold students, schools, and districts accountable for improving student performance and measuring the academic achievements of all students. This, in the long run, shall ensure that each child in the Philippines shall receive a high quality education consistent with nationwide content and performance standards.

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

ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES
Senator

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AN ACT

ESTABLISHING THE DIVISION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL ACCOUNTABILITY TO ADMINISTER ALL MONITORING AND COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES DEALING WITH ACADEMIC ACCOUNTABILITY FOR EACH SCHOOL OR SCHOOL DISTRICT, AND TO REPORT ACADEMIC PROGRESS, 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 may be cited as the "*Division of Public School Academic*
2 *Accountability Act of 2016.*"
3

4 **SEC. 2. Purposes.-**
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- 6 1. To enhance the public's access to public school performance indicators and to better
7 measure the benefits of the increasing public investment in the Philippines' schools, the
8 Division of Public School Accountability of the Department of Education, hereinafter
9 referred as DepEd, should be established under the direct operational control of the
10 DepEd Secretary; and
11
- 12 2. The foremost obligation of the division shall be to administer all monitoring and
13 compliance activities dealing with academic and fiscal accountability for each school or
14 school district and to report academic progress.
15

16 **SEC. 3. Creation of the Division.-** The Division of Public School Accountability of the
17 Department of Education, hereinafter referred to as Division, is hereby created.
18

19 **SEC. 4. Membership to the Division.-**
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- 21 1. The division shall be under the supervision of the DepEd Secretary;
22
- 23 2. The Secretary shall select an individual to serve as the Assistant Secretary of the
24 Division, and the Assistant Secretary shall serve at the pleasure of the Secretary;

- 1
2
3 a) The Secretary may reassign as necessary appropriate staff for the Division
4 sufficient to fulfill all obligations for monitoring and reporting in the division;
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6 b) The person selected as the Assistant Secretary shall:
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8 i. Be a person of good moral character and qualified technically and by
9 experience to direct the work of the division;
10
11 ii. Hold a master's degree or a higher level degree from an accredited
12 institution; and
13
14 iii. Have ten (10) years of experience in an administrative, supervisory, or
15 management position.
16
17 c) No person who is related within the fourth degree of consanguinity or affinity to
18 any DepEd official or to the Secretary shall be eligible to serve as the Assistant
19 Secretary.
20

21 **SEC.5. Jurisdiction of tile Assistant Secretary of the Division.-**
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- 23 1. With guidance and approval from the Secretary, the Assistant Secretary shall be
24 responsible for hiring all employees of the Division;
25
26 2. The Division shall have the following responsibilities:
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28 a) To monitor schools for compliance with:
29
30 i. Government regulations;
31
32 ii. Legislative acts and court-ordered mandates;
33
34 iii. All standards of learning and accreditation as established by the DepEd;
35 and
36
37 iv. All rules and regulations as established by the DepEd;
38
39 b) To coordinate the analysis, dissemination, and reporting of all augmented,
40 criterion-referenced, or norm-referenced assessment information;
41
42 c) To coordinate the implementation and administration of:
43
44 i. Longitudinal tracking and trend data collection as established by the
45 DepEd for the purposes of improving student and school performance,

1 ensuring mastery of the curriculum, and providing comparisons between
2 students within the country;

3
4 ii. Value-added assessments as established by the DepEd; and

5
6 iii. The annual school performance reports as established by the DepEd.

7
8 d) To administer all monitoring and compliance activities dealing with academic and
9 fiscal accountability as established by the state board; and

10
11 e) To work with program approval and certification sections of the Department of
12 Education, the Department of Higher Education, the Department of Workforce
13 Education, and the individual colleges to provide information that will contribute
14 to reasonable, equitable, and excellent preparation of certified personnel in public
15 and private institutions of higher education.

16
17 **SEC. 6. *Creation of the Philippine Public Schools Accountability Advisory Council-***

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19 1. There is created the Philippine Public Schools Accountability Advisory Council
20 (hereinafter referred to as the Council), which shall begin operation within one hundred
21 twenty (120) calendar days following the enactment of this Act.

22
23 2. The membership of the Council shall include:

24
25 a) One (1) member who shall be a representative of an educators' union in the
26 country;

27
28 b) One (1) member who shall be a parent or guardian of at least one (1) student
29 currently enrolled in kindergarten through grade 6 in a public school in the
30 country;

31
32 c) One (1) member who shall be a representative of higher education;

33
34 d) One (1) member who is currently employed as a teacher in kindergarten through
35 grade six in a public school system in the country; and

36
37 e) One (1) member who shall be a representative of the administration of a public
38 school in the country.

39
40 3. The Council shall provide advice and consultation services for the Assistant Secretary;

41
42 4. The Council may be convened by the Chair of the Council, by the DepEd Secretary, or by
43 the Division's Assistant Secretary.

1 **SEC. 7. *Submission of Annual Reports.***-
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- 3 1. The Division shall provide annual reports of school performance or compliance to the
4 Senate Committee on Education, Arts and Culture and the House of Representatives
5 Committee on Basic Education and Culture;
6
7 2. A preliminary report shall be provided by January 1 of each year, and a follow-up report
8 that includes information regarding on-site visits shall be filed by June 1 of each year.
9

10 **SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.*** Any laws, decrees, ordinances or rules and regulations which
11 are inconsistent with or contrary to the provision of this Act is hereby amended or repealed.
12

13 **SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.*** - If any provision of this Act is held invalid or
14 unconstitutional, the other provisions not affected hereby shall remain valid and subsisting.
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16 **SEC. 10. *Effectivity.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete
17 publication in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,