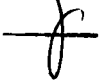




'16 JUL 19 P5:21

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

RECEIVED BY: 

SENATE

S. No. 594

Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" Trillanes IV

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

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.

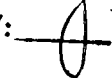
In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is earnestly sought.


ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES IV
Senator



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OTHER PURPOSES

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** This Act shall be known as the "*Academic Excellence Act*
2 *of 2016.*"
3

4 **SEC. 2. The Academic Excellence Foundation.** - There is hereby created the
5 Philippine Academic Excellence Foundation whose purpose shall be to promote academic
6 excellence in public and private schools all over the country through public-private entity
7 partnerships. The foundation shall be a non-profit organization. The board of directors of the
8 foundation and foundation activities shall be under the direction of the Department of
9 Education (DepEd).
10

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

21 **SEC. 4. Programs of the Foundation.** - The foundation may develop programs that
22 will advance the concept of educational excellence. These may include, but are not limited to:
23

- 24 (a) recognition programs and awards for students demonstrating academic
25 excellence;
- 26
- 27 (b) summer institute programs for students with special talents;
- 28
- 29 (c) recognition programs for teachers, administrators, and others who contribute
30 to academic excellence;

- 1 (d) summer mentorship programs with business and industry for students with
2 special career interests and high academic achievements;
3
- 4 (e) President's awards ceremonies and special campaigns to promote awareness
5 and expectation for academic achievement;
6
- 7 (f) an academic league to provide organized challenges requiring cooperation and
8 competition for public and private pupils in elementary and secondary schools;
9
- 10 (g) systemic transformation initiatives and assistance and training to community
11 teams to increase school performance in the country's education institutions
12 through strategic quality planning for continuous improvement, empowerment
13 of multiple stakeholders, validation of results via customer-supplier
14 relationships, and a total system approach based on best practices in key
15 process areas; and
16
- 17 (h) activities to measure customer satisfaction for delivery of services to education
18 institutions in order to plan for and implement continuous improvement.
19

20 To the extent possible, the foundation shall make these programs available to students
21 in all parts of the country.
22

23 **SEC. 5. Powers and Duties of the Foundation.** - The foundation may:
24

- 25 (1) establish and collect membership fees;
26
- 27 (2) publish brochures or booklets relating to the purposes of the foundation and
28 collect reasonable fees for the publications thereof;
29
- 30 (3) receive money, grants, and in-kind goods or services from non-governmental
31 sources for the purposes of the foundation;
32
- 33 (4) contract with consultants;
34
- 35 (5) expend money for awards and other forms of recognition and appreciation;
36 and
37
- 38 (6) determine procedures and expenditures for awards and recognitions to
39 teachers, students, donors, and other people who are not employees of the
40 executive branch.
41

42 **SEC 6. Contracts.** - The foundation board shall review and approve each contract of
43 the board. Each contract of the foundation board shall be subject to the same review and
44 approval procedures as a contract of the Department of Education.
45

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Approved,