

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



'16 JUL 18 P6:19

SENATE

S.B. No. 399

RECEIVED BY: 

Introduced by SENATOR LOREN LEGARDA

AN ACT RECOGNIZING THE BRITISH SCHOOL MANILA AS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER

Explanatory Note

The British School Manila (BSM) is an education institution established in 1976. Beginning with just two (2) classrooms and thirty-six (36) students, and a vision of delivering the highest standards of education in the country for British children and for English speaking children of other nationalities, the institution now caters to more than 930 students, representing 33 nationalities with Filipinos included.

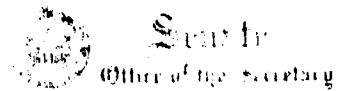
The BSM has been fully accredited by the Council of International Schools (CIS), which is the premier accreditation agency for international schools worldwide. The school follows an adopted form of the English National Curriculum and the International Baccalaureate Diploma. Classes at BSM are relatively small with a size of 16 to 22 students per class to encourage children to learn at their own rate. All teachers are UK or Commonwealth trained. Based on assessments, students from BSM perform well above UK and international expectations. The BSM is proud to uphold the high standard of the British education system while taking advantage of the school's multi-cultural setting.

This bill seeks to extend the Philippine Government's formal recognition to the British School of Manila as a distinguished education institution of international character by granting certain prerogatives conducive to its growth.

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


LOREN LEGARDA
Senator

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



16 JUL 18 P6:19

SENATE

S.B. No. 399

RECEIVED BY:

Introduced by SENATOR LOREN LEGARDA

AN ACT RECOGNIZING THE BRITISH SCHOOL MANILA AS AN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION OF INTERNATIONAL CHARACTER

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

1 **SECTION 1. Official Recognition.** - The British School Manila, herein referred
2 to as "School," is hereby declared and recognized as an educational institution
3 of international character authorized to operate educational programs that
4 primarily and principally adhere to universally accepted and recognized
5 educational policies through international accreditations from institutions
6 which confer international recognition to stakeholders worldwide. The school
7 shall be subject to applicable laws, rules and regulations and other issuances
8 issued by the government and to such limitations as the Department of
9 Education (DepEd) may impose.

10
11 **Sec 2. Governing Body.** The School shall be governed by its board of trustees
12 also known as the Council of Trustees, herein referred to as "Council", elected
13 in accordance with the Corporation Code of the Philippines and its corporate
14 charter, provided that, eighty percent (80%) of its trustees must be residents of
15 the Philippines and forty percent (40%) of which must be reserved for Filipinos;
16 provided further that the DepEd shall determine the qualifications of the
17 trustees.

18
19 **Sec. 3. Grant of Prerogatives.** To enable the School to continue carrying out
20 its educational program, improve its standard of instruction and meet the
21 special needs of its school community for quality education, it shall:

- 22
23 (a) accept applicants for admission, regardless of nationality, in
24 accordance with its own eligibility standards and rules for admission
25 and grade placement, provided that the school shall not give less
26 priority to the Citizens of the Philippines, as its host country by
27 ensuring that no single alien nationality shall consist more than thirty
28 (30%) percent of the entire student population in a given school year;
29 (b) be managed and administered by the Head of School, who shall
30 possess the qualifications prescribed by the Council and subject to
31 the approval of the Secretary of the Department of Education;
32 (c) upon the approval of the Secretary of Department of Education
33 (DepEd);
34 (d) determine its own curriculum;

- 1 (e) endeavor to promote international friendship, goodwill and
2 understanding among its students as well as among members of the
3 foreign and educational community and citizens of the Philippines;
4 (f) establish its calendar of studies and work schedule to maximize
5 efficiency and maintain, enhance, improve and promote the quality of
6 education or instruction;
7 (g) impose reasonable amount of fees in accordance with the rules and
8 regulations promulgated by the DepEd;
9 (h) uphold standards of education, compatible, if not superior with those
10 obtaining in similar schools of recognized international standing;
11 (i) engage and support the host country through meaningful and
12 reflective service and provide an atmosphere that creates deep
13 understanding of current issues within the cultural context; and;
14 (j) employ qualified teaching and management personnel selected by the
15 Council either locally or abroad, from the Philippines or other
16 nationalities, in accordance with the qualification standards provided
17 by the Department of Education, provided that fair wages and equal
18 remuneration for work of equal value without distinction from Filipino
19 or Foreign hired shall be implemented. Such foreign personnel are
20 exempt from laws that impose nationality restrictions on control and
21 administration of educational institutions, except laws that have been
22 or will be enacted for the protection of employees, provided that such
23 exception shall not extend their liability to income taxes.
24

25 **Sec. 4. Supervision and Regulation of the DepEd.** Notwithstanding the
26 prerogatives granted to the School by this Act, the School shall be under the
27 supervision and regulation of the DepEd and shall adhere to basic laws, rules
28 and regulations of the DepEd governing international or foreign schools.
29

30 **Sec. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** - Within ninety (90) days from
31 the effectivity of this Act, the DepEd Secretary or his representative, school's
32 administration, representatives from the school parents and representative
33 from school parents and representative from private educational associations,
34 in coordination with relevant government agencies, shall promulgate the
35 implementing rules and regulations of this Act.
36

37 **Sec. 6. Separability Clause.** - If any provision or part thereof is held invalid or
38 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise
39 affected shall remain valid and subsisting.
40

41 **Sec. 7. Repealing Clause.** - Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive
42 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to
43 or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified, or
44 amended accordingly.
45

46 **Sec. 8. Effectivity Clause.** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
47 publication in the Official Gazette and in at least two (2) newspapers of general
48 circulation.
49

50 Approved,