

SENATE

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S. No. 437

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Introduced by **SENATOR RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.**

**AN ACT
STRENGTHENING THE ROLE OF PARENTS ASSOCIATIONS AND CREATING FOR
THE PURPOSE THE NATIONAL PARENT COUNCIL**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

In accordance with the Constitution, the Government is mandated to support the primary right and duty of parents in the rearing of our country's youth for civic efficiency and the development of moral character, this bill seeks to cultivate parents' participation in the enhancement of our educational system through the strengthening of parents associations across our nation.

The State believes that the partnership and collaboration between educators, school management, parents, the wider community and the children themselves is the key to providing top tier education for our nation's youth. Ultimately, that strengthened parents' associations will highly contribute to the welfare of the youth tasked to carry on the mission of building a better and brighter nation.

In cognizance of the vital role that parent associations play in the development of our children, this bill aims to create the National Parent Council.

The passage of this bill into law is earnestly sought.


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.

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THE PURPOSE THE NATIONAL PARENT COUNCIL**

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

Section 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "National Parent Council Act of 2019".

Sec. 2. *Declaration of Policies.* - Pursuant to the Constitutional mandate that the government shall support the natural and primary right and duty of the parents in the rearing of the youth for civic efficiency and the development of moral character, it is hereby declared the objectives of this Act:

(a) The right and duty of parents to organize themselves and form associations for the purpose of ventilating their ideas in relation to the proper and effective education of their children shall be encouraged.

(b) Parents associations shall be strengthened and given necessary incentives in order to serve best the welfare and give outmost benefits to the children; and

(c) The Department of Education (DepEd) shall give due recognition, importance and support to parent associations as its partner in providing accessible and quality education.

Sec. 3. *Definition of Terms.* - For purposes of this Act, the term:

1
2 (a) "*Parents Associations*" refer to the organization composed
3 exclusively of parents and/or guardians of school children in the primary and
4 secondary levels established for the purpose of ensuring the welfare of the
5 school children and students. Existing associations with the purpose and
6 membership but under different names shall be considered parent associations
7 under this act.

8 (b) "*Schools*" refer to both public and private sectarian or non-sectarian
9 educational institutions.

10 (c) "*City*" refers to both chartered and non-chartered cities.

11 Sec. 4. *Coverage.* - This Act shall apply to the network of parents associations
12 established on a per-school basis, organized at the municipality and provincial levels. As
13 such, parents associations at all levels within a municipality or city may form a Municipal or
14 City parents associations, and all Municipal and City parents associations within a province
15 may form a Provincial parents association. The organization of these associates shall enable
16 the parents to perform their role effectively for the benefit and welfare of the school children.

17 Sec. 5. *Formation and Support of Parent Associations.* - School authorities shall
18 encourage, support and cooperate in the organization of parents associations.
19

20 Further, barangay, municipal, city and provincial officials shall provide the necessary
21 assistance and support to parent associations especially in the implementation of their
22 school-based activities and projects.

23 Sec. 6. *Incentives.* - To encourage parents and enable them to function productively
24 and efficiently, they shall be accorded the following:
25

26 (a) *Participation in Local Government Council Meetings and School*
27 *Advisory Boards.* - There shall be a parent representative to the Committee
28 on Education or its equivalent in the Sangguniang Bayan, Sangguniang
29 Panlungsod and the Sangguniang Panlalawigan as well as to the advisory body
30 of each school, to be elected among the members of municipal, city and
31 provincial parent associations respectively.

1 (b) *Exemption from Taxes.* - All contributions, gifts, donations,
2 bequests by members of the parents associations in favor of duly-approved
3 projects that form part of the school plans shall be exempted from taxes.

4 (c) *Accreditation Requirement.* - The existence of a dynamic and
5 effective parents association in a school shall be required by qualified
6 accrediting agencies as an evaluative criterion for the accreditation of the
7 school.
8

9 *Sec. 7. National Parent Council.* - To establish an effective and appropriate body for
10 an effective and continuing coordination between the Department of Education and the
11 parents associations nationwide, and to encourage a closer working relationship which will
12 not only promote the welfare of the school children but also to that of the community they
13 live in, there is hereby created a National Parent Council, hereafter referred to as Council,
14 to be composed of representatives elected from among the Provincial Parents Associations.
15

16 Officers of the Council shall be elected from among the members.
17

18 There shall be an annual general assembly of the members to be coordinated closely
19 with the Office of the Secretary of the DepEd.

20 *Sec. 8. Powers and Functions.* - The Council shall have the following powers and
21 functions:

22 (a) To act as an advisory body to the DepEd and as such shall be attached to
23 the Office of the Secretary for effective liaison and coordination;

24 (b) To participate in the formulation of national guidelines as it refers to policies
25 and procedures governing school fees, visual aids and practical application for curricular
26 activities;

27 (c) To assist, thru the municipality and provincial associations, the
28 appropriate DepEd regional, provincial or municipal office in monitoring,
29 overseeing and evaluating the implementation of school infrastructure
30 projects;

1 (d) To provide nationwide forum wherein the views of parents on
2 relevant issues can be deliberated upon before these are brought to
3 appropriate bodies for action;

4 (e) To be an effective link between the DepEd and all agencies that
5 deal with matters pertinent to schools.

6 (f) To create such specialized committees and appoint members not only
7 from within the Council but also from the municipal, city or provincial
8 parents associations to help address successfully specific concerns; and

9 (g) To request cooperation of any barangay, municipal, city, provincial or
10 national official on any matter deemed necessary to carry out the
11 provisions of this Act.
12

13 *Sec. 9. National Parents Association Week.* - There is hereby declared a National
14 Parents Association Week to be held during the first week of February of every year in order
15 to highlight and give recognition to the achievements and importance of parents associations
16 in their role in giving accessible and quality education to the children.
17

18 Appropriation activities nationwide which will conclude the holding of the Annual
19 General Assembly of the National Parent Council shall be undertaken and drawn up by the
20 Council.
21

22 Expenses relevant to these activities, including the organization of an assembly,
23 secretariat services, and attendance of members, speakers and guest shall be charged to
24 the Department of Education budget.

25 *Sec. 10. Appropriations.* - An annual regular appropriation of Five Million Pesos
26 (P5,000,000.00) shall be included in the annual budget of the Department of Education
27 exclusively for the implementation of this Act.

28 *Sec. 11. The Role of DepEd.* - The DepEd shall promulgate the implementing rules
29 and regulations (IRR) to carry out the objectives of this Act.

30 *Sec. 12. Repealing Clause.* - All laws, presidential decrees, executive and
31 administrative orders inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or
32 modified accordingly.

1 Sec. 13. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication
2 in the Official Gazette.

3

4 Approved,