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S.B. No. 2575

(In substitution of S.B. Nos. 1754 and 2029)

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Prepared by the Committee on Basic Education joint with the Committees on Women, Children, Family Relations and Gender Equality; and Finance, with Senators Angara, Gatchalian, Villanueva, Revilla, and Hontiveros as authors thereof.

AN ACT
ENSURING THE ALIGNMENT OF BASIC EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE AND DEVELOPMENT, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10410, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "EARLY YEARS ACT (EYA) OF 2013", AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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 "*Basic Education and*
2 *Early Childhood Care and Development Alignment Act.*"

3
4 Sec. 2. Section 2 of Republic Act No. 10410, otherwise known as the "Early
5 Years Act (EYA) of 2013," is hereby amended to read as follows:

6 "SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of
7 the State to promote the rights of children to survival, development and
8 special protection with full recognition of the nature of childhood and as
9 well as the need to provide developmentally appropriate experiences to
10 address their needs; and to support parents in their roles as primary
11 caregivers and as their children's first teachers. Further, the State hereby
12 recognizes the age from zero (0) to eight (8) years as the first crucial stage

1 of educational development of which the age [~~from zero (0) to four (4)~~]
2 **BELOW FIVE (5)** years shall be the responsibility of the Early Childhood
3 Care and Development (ECCD) Council. Therefore, the responsibility to help
4 develop children in the formative years between age five (5) to eight (8)
5 years shall be with the Department of Education (DepED).

6 x x x

7 The System shall promote the inclusion of children with special
8 needs, provide for reasonable accommodation and accessible environments
9 for children with disabilities and advocate respect for cultural and linguistic
10 diversity, including the use of Filipino Sign Language as the visual language
11 of the deaf community. It shall be anchored on complementary strategies
12 for ECCD that include service delivery for children [~~from age zero (0) to four~~
13 **(4) BELOW FIVE (5) years OF AGE**, educating parents and caregivers,
14 encouraging the active involvement of parents and communities in ECCD
15 programs, raising awareness about the important efforts that improve the
16 quality of life for young children and families.”

17
18 Sec. 3. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 10410 is hereby amended to read as
19 follows:

20 “SEC. 3. *Objectives.* – The National ECCD System shall pursue the
21 following objectives:

22 (a) x x x

23 x x x

24 (e) To establish an efficient system for early identification, prevention,
25 referral and intervention for the wide range of children with special needs [~~from~~
26 **age zero (0) to four (4) BELOW FIVE (5) years OF AGE;**

27 (f) x x x

28 (g) To reinforce the role of parents and other caregivers as the primary
29 caregivers and educators of their children especially [~~from age zero (0) to four~~
30 **(4) THOSE BELOW FIVE (5) years OF AGE;**

31 (h) x x x

1 (i) To improve the quality standards of public and private ECCD
2 programs through, but not limited to, [~~a registration and credential system for~~
3 ~~ECCD service providers and facilities~~] **THEIR VOLUNTARY**
4 **ACCREDITATION, AND THE CONTINUING EDUCATION, RESKILLING,**
5 **AND UPSKILLING OF ECCD SERVICE PROVIDERS;**

6 (j) x x x

7 (k) x x x.”

8
9 Sec. 4. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 10410 is hereby amended to read as
10 follows:

11 “SEC. 4. *Definitions.* – The following terms are defined as follows:

12 **(A) CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTER SHALL REFER TO A**
13 **FACILITY IN A BARANGAY WHERE CHILDREN BELOW FIVE**
14 **(5) YEARS OF AGE ARE CARED FOR DURING PART OF THE**
15 **DAY BY ECCD SERVICE PROVIDERS TO DELIVER ECCD**
16 **PROGRAMS AND SERVICES.**

17 **(B) [~~(a)~~] [Early Childhood Care and Development (ECCD)]**
18 *System* shall refer to the full range of health, nutrition, early
19 **CHILDHOOD** education and social services development programs
20 that provide for the basic holistic needs of young children [~~from age~~
21 ~~zero (0) to four (4)] **BELOW FIVE (5) years OF AGE;** and to
22 promote their optimum growth and development.~~

23 These programs shall include:

24 (1) Center-based programs, such as the day care service
25 established under Republic Act No. 6972, otherwise known as the
26 "Barangay-Level Total Development and Protection of Children Act",
27 and hereinafter referred to as the child development service,
28 community or church-based early childhood education programs
29 initiated by nongovernment organizations or people's organizations,
30 workplace-related child care and education programs, child-minding
31 centers, health centers and stations; [~~and~~]

1 (2) Home-based programs, such as the neighborhood-based play
2 groups, family child care programs, parent education and home
3 visiting programs [~~+~~]; **AND**

4 (3) **OTHER INNOVATIONS AND ALTERNATIVE**
5 **MODALITIES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF ECCD**
6 **APPROACHES, WHICH INCLUDE BUT NOT LIMITED TO**
7 **ADDRESSING THE IMPACT OF EMERGENCIES, CLIMATE**
8 **CHANGE, AND OTHER DISASTERS.**

9 (C) [~~(b)~~] *ECCD Service Providers* shall include the various
10 professionals, paraprofessionals and volunteer caregivers who are
11 directly responsible for the care and education of young children
12 [~~from age zero (0) to four (4)~~] **BELOW FIVE (5) years OF AGE**
13 through the various centers, [~~and~~] home-based programs, **AND**
14 **OTHER INNOVATIONS AND ALTERNATIVE MODALITIES.**
15 They shall include, but shall not be limited to, [~~day care workers~~
16 ~~hereinafter referred to as~~] child development workers, child
17 development teachers, teacher-aides, rural health midwives, social
18 workers, community health workers, barangay nutrition scholars,
19 parent effectiveness service volunteers, [~~and family day care~~
20 ~~providers~~] **NEWBORN TO PRE-SCHOOL CAREGIVERS, AND**
21 **PLAY FACILITATORS.**

22 (D) [~~(c)~~] *ECCD Curriculum* shall refer to the developmentally-
23 appropriate educational objectives and practices, programs of
24 activities, organized learning experiences, recommended learning
25 materials and appropriate assessment for children [~~from age zero~~
26 ~~(0) to four (4)~~] **BELOW FIVE (5) years OF AGE** that are **ALIGNED**
27 **WITH THE BASIC EDUCATION CURRICULUM AND**
28 implemented by service providers through center and home-based
29 programs, **AND OTHER INNOVATIONS AND ALTERNATIVE**
30 **MODALITIES.** It shall **BE REVIEWED PERIODICALLY AND**
31 **SHALL** consist of national program goals and guidelines,

1 instructional objectives, and content outlines that are age-
2 appropriate, individually appropriate, and culturally relevant.”

3 **(E) [(d)] x x x.**”
4

5 Sec. 5. Section 5 of Republic Act No. 10410 is hereby amended to read as
6 follows:

7 “SEC. 5. *System Framework and Components.* – The ECCD System
8 shall ensure that the National ECCD Program is implemented in accordance
9 with **POLICIES AND [quality]** standards [~~for accreditation~~] and for this
10 purpose there shall be established a National ECCD Monitoring and
11 Evaluation Framework. The ECCD System shall include the following
12 components:

13 (a) ECCD Curriculum. – The curriculum shall focus on children’s
14 ~~[total]~~ **HOLISTIC** development, [~~and~~] take into account age, individual
15 and socio-cultural appropriateness, **AND UTILIZE PLAY AS ITS CORE**
16 **COMPONENT.** It shall promote the delivery of complementary and
17 integrative services for **EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION,** health,
18 nutrition, **SAFETY, SECURITY AND WELL-BEING,** [~~early childhood~~
19 ~~education~~], sanitation, and cultural activities[~~.- It shall use the child’s first~~
20 ~~language as the medium of instruction~~];

21 (b) x x x

22 (c) Human Resource Development Program. – The program shall
23 establish mechanisms for the systematic professionalization of ECCD service
24 providers through enrolment in educational program in site-based or
25 distance education modes, through pre-service or in-service training
26 including continuing education programs[~~, whereby a registration and~~
27 ~~credential system shall be developed in the ECCD System~~]; and

28 (d) x x x. ”
29

30 Sec. 6. Section 6 of Republic Act No. 10410 is hereby amended to read as
31 follows:

1 “SEC. 6. *Expanding the ECCD System.* – The National ECCD System
2 shall henceforth apply to all provinces, cities, municipalities and barangays
3 [~~as may be determined by the ECCD Council~~] to achieve universal ECCD
4 coverage for all children [~~from age zero (0) to four (4)~~] **BELOW FIVE (5)**
5 years **OF AGE.**”
6

7 Sec. 7. Section 7 of Republic Act No. 10410 is hereby amended to read as
8 follows:

9 “SEC. 7. *Implementing Arrangements and Operational Structures.* –
10 The implementation of the National ECCD System shall be the responsibility
11 of the ECCD Council.

12 (a) Responsibilities of the ECCD Council. – The ECCD Council shall be
13 responsible for establishing national standards, developing policies and
14 programs, ensuring compliance thereof, providing technical assistance and
15 support to the ECCD service providers in consultation with coordinating
16 committees at the provincial, city, municipal and barangay levels.

17 The Department of Education (DepED), **THE DEPARTMENT OF**
18 **THE INTERIOR AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DILG), THE**
19 **COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED)**, the Department of
20 Social Welfare and Development (DSWD), the Department of Health (DOH),
21 the National Nutrition Council (NNC) and the Union of Local Authorities of
22 the Philippines (ULAP) shall meet in an annual workshop to prepare work
23 and financial plans that will coordinate their technical assistance and
24 support for the National ECCD Program. They shall observe existing
25 implementing guidelines that ensure consistency in integrated service
26 delivery within the National ECCD System, as follows:

27 (1) The DepED shall recognize the National ECCD Program as the
28 foundation of the learning continuum and shall promote it for all
29 children [~~from age zero (0) to four (4)~~] **BELOW FIVE (5)** years
30 **OF AGE;** and

31 (2) The DepED, **THE DILG, THE CHED**, the DSWD, the DOH and
32 the NNC shall provide continuing professional development

1 program support, supplementary learning materials, reference
2 materials, supplemental nutrition and health care services.

3 (b) Responsibilities of Local Government Units. – Local government
4 units (LGUs) shall **BE RESPONSIBLE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF**
5 **ECCD PROGRAMS IN THEIR RESPECTIVE JURISDICTIONS. LGUs**
6 **SHALL** include allocations from their Special Education Fund (SEF) and
7 Gender and Development (GAD) Fund in addition to other local funds to be
8 utilized for the following purposes:

9 ~~[(1) Support the implementation of their ECCD Program;~~

10 ~~(2) Organize and support parent cooperatives to establish~~
11 ~~community-based ECCD programs;~~

12 ~~(3) Provide counterpart funds for the continuing professional~~
13 ~~development of their ECCD public service providers; and~~

14 ~~(4) Provide the facilities for the conduct of their ECCD Program.]~~

15 **(1) AIM TO ACHIEVE UNIVERSAL COVERAGE FOR THE**
16 **NATIONAL ECCD SYSTEM BY IDENTIFYING YOUNG**
17 **CHILDREN, INCLUDING THE POOR, THE VULNERABLE,**
18 **AND THE MARGINALIZED, AND SUPPORTING THEIR**
19 **PARENTS OR PARENT-SUBSTITUTES WITHIN THEIR**
20 **RESPECTIVE JURISDICTIONS;**

21 **(2) ISSUE AND IMPLEMENT POLICIES BASED ON**
22 **NATIONAL POLICIES FORMULATED BY THE ECCD**
23 **COUNCIL, AND SUBMIT THEIR RESPECTIVE ROADMAPS**
24 **TO THE COUNCIL, TO BE UPDATED EVERY THREE YEARS,**
25 **TOWARDS THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE GOAL OF**
26 **UNIVERSAL COVERAGE;**

27 **(3) PROVIDE THE FACILITIES AND RESOURCES FOR THE**
28 **IMPLEMENTATION OF ECCD PROGRAMS. THEY SHALL**
29 **ESTABLISH OR CONVERT EXISTING DAYCARE CENTERS**
30 **TO CHILD DEVELOPMENT CENTERS (CDCs) AND**
31 **MAINTAIN THEM ACCORDING TO STANDARDS AND**
32 **SPECIFICATIONS SET BY THE ECCD COUNCIL IN ORDER**

1 TO HAVE AT LEAST ONE (1) CDC IN EVERY BARANGAY.
2 THEY SHALL ALSO IMPLEMENT HOME-BASED AND
3 OTHER INNOVATIONS AND ALTERNATIVE MODALITIES
4 CONFORMING TO THE NEEDS OF THEIR RESPECTIVE
5 BARANGAYS;

6 (4) CREATE PLANTILLA POSITIONS FOR CHILD
7 DEVELOPMENT TEACHERS (CDTs) AND CHILD
8 DEVELOPMENT WORKERS (CDWs), RECRUIT, HIRE, AND
9 ENSURE THEIR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT;

10 (5) SUPERVISE THE SERVICE PROVIDERS AND MONITOR
11 THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ECCD PROGRAMS;

12 (6) ADMINISTER THE VOLUNTARY ACCREDITATION OF
13 PRIVATE ECCD PROGRAMS;

14 (7) CONDUCT DATA COLLECTION, MAINTENANCE, AND
15 HARMONIZATION OF THE EXISTING DATABASES
16 RELEVANT TO ECCD, IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE
17 PARAMETERS OR METRICS GIVEN BY THE ECCD
18 COUNCIL. SUBMISSION OF REPORTS TO THE ECCD
19 COUNCIL SHALL BE DONE ANNUALLY;

20 (8) ENDEAVOR TO AUGMENT THEIR LOCAL FUNDS FROM
21 PRIVATE SOURCES, BOTH LOCAL AND INTERNATIONAL,
22 FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ECCD PROGRAMS;

23 (9) DEVELOP INNOVATIVE ARRANGEMENTS AND
24 PARTNERSHIPS WITH PRIVATE ECCD SERVICE
25 PROVIDERS;

26 (10) FORMULATE AND IMPLEMENT A LOCALIZED
27 COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY PROGRAM FOR YOUNG
28 CHILDREN DURING DISASTERS AND OTHER EMERGENCY
29 SITUATIONS, PRIORITIZING THE NEEDS OF PREGNANT
30 WOMEN, YOUNG CHILDREN AND THEIR PARENT-
31 SUBSTITUTES, IN ACCORDANCE WITH REPUBLIC ACT

1 **NO. 10821, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "CHILDREN'S**
2 **EMERGENCY RELIEF AND PROTECTION ACT";**

3 **(11) ENGAGE PARENTS, PARENT-SUBSTITUTES,**
4 **GOVERNMENT AGENCIES, CIVIL SOCIETY**
5 **ORGANIZATIONS, AND OTHER STAKEHOLDERS IN THE**
6 **IMPLEMENTATION OF ECCD PROGRAMS; AND**

7 **(12) ATTEND MEETINGS CALLED BY THE ECCD COUNCIL.**

8 (c) Responsibilities of Families and Communities. – Families and
9 communities shall support the local ECCD programs by participating in
10 various community-based projects such as, but not limited to, health,
11 nutrition, social development and early childhood education projects for the
12 overall development of their children [~~from age zero (0) to four (4)~~]
13 **BELOW FIVE (5) years OF AGE."**

14
15 Sec. 8. Section 8 of Republic Act No. 10410 is hereby amended to read as
16 follows:

17 "SEC. 8. *Strengthening the ECCD Council.* – The ECCD Council shall
18 be strengthened to ensure the State's focus on building a strong foundation
19 for the development and learning of children [~~during the early years from~~
20 ~~age zero (0) to four (4)~~] **BELOW FIVE (5) years OF AGE**, to support the
21 full range of health, nutrition, early **CHILDHOOD** education and social
22 development programs for the child's holistic development and ensure
23 sustained interagency and multisectoral collaboration. The Council shall be
24 attached to the DepED."

25
26 Sec. 9. Section 9 of Republic Act No. 10410 is hereby amended to read as
27 follows:

28 "SEC. 9. *Organization of the ECCD Council.* – The ECCD Council shall
29 be composed of the following:

30 (a) ECCD Governing Board – The ECCD Governing Board shall
31 be composed of:

32 (1) Secretary of the DepEd, as *ex officio* Chairperson;

1 (2) **SECRETARY OF THE DILG, AS *EX OFFICIO* VICE-
2 CHAIRPERSON;**

3 (3) **CHAIRPERSON OF THE CHED, AS MEMBER;**

4 (4) [(2)] Executive Director of the ECCD Council, as [Vice
5 Chairperson] **MEMBER;**

6 (5) [(3)] Secretary of the DSWD, as member;

7 (6) [(4)] Secretary of the DOH, as member;

8 (7) [(5)] Executive Director of the NNC, as member; **AND**

9 (8) [(6)] President of the ULAP, as member[; and

10 ~~(7) One (1) private individual who is an ECCD practitioner
11 and expert shall be appointed by the President upon the
12 recommendation of the Board, as member].~~

13 The Board shall meet once [a month] **EVERY QUARTER** or upon
14 the call of the Chairperson or three (3) members of the Board.

15 (b) x x x."

16
17 Sec. 10. Section 10 of Republic Act No. 10410 is hereby amended to read as
18 follows:

19 "SEC. 10. *Functions of the ECCD Council.* — The ECCD Council shall
20 carry out the objectives of the National ECCD System by performing the
21 following functions:

22 (a) Promulgate **NATIONAL** policies and implement guidelines for
23 ECCD programs in consultation with **LGUs AND OTHER**
24 stakeholders, including the regional **AND LOCAL** levels when
25 appropriate, consistent with the [national policy] **OBJECTIVES**
26 and [program] **SYSTEM** framework[s] as defined in this Act;

27 (b) Establish [ECCD program] standards [that reflect developmentally
28 appropriate practices for ECCD programs, which shall interface with
29 the kindergarten curriculum of the DepED] **TO ENSURE**
30 **ALIGNMENT OF THE ECCD CURRICULUM AND THE BASIC**
31 **EDUCATION CURRICULUM;**

1 (c) Develop a national system for the recruitment~~[, registration,~~
2 ~~accreditation,]~~ **OF QUALIFIED CDTs AND CDWs, AND OTHER**
3 **SERVICE PROVIDERS. IT SHALL LIKEWISE DEVELOP**
4 **PROGRAMS FOR THE** continuing education ~~[and equivalency],~~
5 **RESKILLING,** and ~~[credential system of ECCD]~~ **UPSKILLING OF**
6 **CDTs, CDWs, AND OTHER** service providers, supervisors and
7 administrators to improve ~~[and professionalize]~~ the ECCD sector
8 and upgrade quality standards of public and private ECCD
9 programs;

10 **(D) ISSUE MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR THE**
11 **ESTABLISHMENT OF CENTER-BASED AND HOME-BASED**
12 **PROGRAMS, AND OTHER INNOVATIONS AND**
13 **ALTERNATIVE MODALITIES, AND THE CONVERSION OF**
14 **EXISTING PUBLIC DAYCARE CENTERS INTO CDCs;**

15 **(E) ADMINISTER THE VOLUNTARY ACCREDITATION OF**
16 **PUBLIC ECCD PROGRAMS;**

17 **(F) PROVIDE GUIDELINES FOR THE STREAMLINING OF THE**
18 **DELIVERY OF ECCD SERVICES, TAKING INTO**
19 **CONSIDERATION THE NUMBER OF YOUNG CHILDREN**
20 **BEING SERVICED BY EACH CDC, THE PHYSICAL**
21 **ACCESSIBILITY OF CDCs, AND THE AVAILABILITY OF**
22 **FUNDS AND RESOURCES OF THE LGUs, AMONG OTHERS.**
23 **STREAMLINING MEASURES MAY INCLUDE CLUSTERING OF**
24 **CDCs FOR MULTIPLE BARANGAYS, AND THE PROMOTION**
25 **OF CENTER-BASED AND HOME-BASED PROGRAMS, AND**
26 **OTHER INNOVATIONS AND ALTERNATIVE MODALITIES AS**
27 **FAR AS PRACTICABLE, PARTICULARLY IN AREAS WHERE**
28 **VERY FEW YOUNG CHILDREN ARE SERVICED BY THE CDCs**
29 **AND FOR LGUs WITH LIMITED RESOURCES;**

30 **(G) [~~(d)~~]** Develop a national system of awards and recognition to
31 deserving ECCD program implementers and service providers;

1 **(H) FACILITATE THE COOPERATION BETWEEN ECCD MEMBER**
2 **AGENCIES AND COORDINATE THE VARIOUS ECCD**
3 **PROGRAMS;**

4 **(I) [(e)] [Promote, encourage and coordinate the various ECCD**
5 **programs of the DepED, the DSWD, the DOH and the NNC, and**
6 **monitor] CONDUCT REGULAR INDEPENDENT AUDITS ON** the
7 delivery of services to the ECCD program beneficiaries nationwide;

8 **(J) [(f)] Evaluate and assess the impact [and outcome] of various**
9 **ECCD programs AND REPORT THE OUTCOME** nationwide
10 through an effective information system;

11 **(K) [(g)] Develop a national system for REGISTRATION, early**
12 **identification, screening, and [surveillance] MONITORING** of
13 **young children [from age zero (0) to four (4)] BELOW FIVE (5)**
14 **years OF AGE UNDER THE ECCD PROGRAMS WITH THE AIM**
15 **OF UNIVERSAL COVERAGE;**

16 **(L) [(h)] Develop various support mechanisms that maximize public**
17 **and private resources for implementing ECCD programs, giving**
18 **priority to the needy and high risk children from poor AND**
19 **DISADVANTAGED** communities;

20 ~~[(i) Provide funds to poor and disadvantaged communities for the~~
21 ~~establishment and expansion of public ECCD programs,~~
22 ~~improvement of physical facilities and for hiring of ECCD service~~
23 ~~providers;]~~

24 **(M) [(j)] Promote and encourage private sector initiatives for the**
25 **establishment of ECCD programs;**

26 **(N) [(k)] Provide guidelines for the conduct of solicitations from local**
27 **and international civic organizations, and request private**
28 **foundations to supplement available resources; AND**

29 **(O) [(l)] Perform such other functions as the ECCD Council may deem**
30 **necessary."**

31

1 Sec. 11. A new section designated as Section 11 of Republic Act No. 10410 is
2 hereby inserted to read as follows:

3 **"SEC. 11. PROFESSIONALIZATION OF CDTs; NATIONAL**
4 **COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT OF CDWs; CERTIFICATION,**
5 **RESKILLING AND UPSKILLING OF INCUMBENT CDWs;**
6 **SCHOLARSHIPS FOR CONTINUING EDUCATION. – THERE SHALL**
7 **BE AT LEAST ONE (1) CDT AND ONE (1) CDW FOR EVERY CDC**
8 **AND EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY SHALL CREATE PLANTILLA**
9 **POSITIONS FOR CDTs AND CDWs PURSUANT TO SEC. 4 OF THIS**
10 **ACT.**

11 **THE GUIDELINES FOR THE SALARY GRADES, ELIGIBILITY**
12 **AND QUALIFICATIONS, AND DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES,**
13 **AMONG OTHERS, SHALL BE ISSUED BY THE LOCAL CHIEF**
14 **EXECUTIVE IN CONSULTATION WITH AND AS APPROVED BY THE**
15 **CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION (CSC) AND THE DEPARTMENT OF**
16 **BUDGET AND MANAGEMENT: PROVIDED, THAT THE SALARY**
17 **GRADES (SG) SHALL NOT BE LOWER THAN SG 11 FOR CDTs AND**
18 **SG 8 FOR CDWs: PROVIDED, FURTHER, THAT A CDT SHALL BE A**
19 **HOLDER OF ANY BACHELOR'S DEGREE AND HAS PASSED THE**
20 **LICENSURE EXAMINATION FOR TEACHERS (LET): PROVIDED,**
21 **FURTHERMORE, THAT A CDW SHALL BE AT LEAST A SENIOR**
22 **HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE AND HAS PASSED THE NATIONAL**
23 **COMPETENCY ASSESSMENT FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT**
24 **WORKERS, OR A HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATE WHO HAS FINISHED**
25 **TWO (2) YEARS OF TERTIARY EDUCATION AND HAS PASSED A**
26 **CERTIFICATION BY THE TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS**
27 **DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA) FOR CDWs.**

28 **INCUMBENT CDWs SHALL COMPLETE MANDATORY**
29 **RESKILLING AND UPSKILLING TRAINING PROGRAMS ON ECCD**
30 **OR ECED TO BE PROVIDED BY THE COUNCIL, AND PASS A**
31 **CERTIFICATION BY THE TESDA FOR CDWs.**

1 THE TESDA SHALL PROVIDE SUCH ASSESSMENT AND
2 CERTIFICATION FREE OF CHARGE.

3 THE COUNCIL, IN COLLABORATION WITH THE CHED,
4 SHALL DEVELOP A SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR THE
5 CONTINUING EDUCATION OF CDWs WHO SHALL COMPLETE
6 THEIR BACHELOR'S DEGREES AND BE REQUIRED TO TAKE THE
7 LET WITHIN AN AGREED PERIOD OF TIME. THE SCHOLARS
8 SHALL BE REQUIRED TO FULFILL AN OBLIGATION TO RETURN
9 SERVICE IN THE CDCs FOR SUCH REASONABLE PERIOD AS MAY
10 BE DETERMINED BY THE COUNCIL."

11
12 Sec. 12. A new section designated as Section 12 of Republic Act No. 10410 is
13 hereby inserted and the succeeding section is renumbered accordingly. The new
14 Section 12 shall read as follows:

15 **"SEC. 12. CREATION OF ECCD DIVISIONS IN CITIES AND**
16 **MUNICIPALITIES; ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND**
17 **STAFFING PATTERN. – EVERY CITY AND MUNICIPALITY SHALL**
18 **CREATE AN ECCD DIVISION, AND DESIGN AND IMPLEMENT ITS**
19 **OWN ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE AND STAFFING PATTERN**
20 **TAKING INTO CONSIDERATION ITS SERVICE REQUIREMENTS**
21 **AND FINANCIAL CAPABILITY, SUBJECT TO THE STANDARDS**
22 **AND GUIDELINES PRESCRIBED BY THE CSC. THE ECCD**
23 **DIVISION, WHICH SHALL BE UNDER THE ADMINISTRATIVE**
24 **SUPERVISION OF THE MAYOR, SHALL MANAGE ITS DAILY**
25 **OPERATIONS, INCLUDING THE SUPERVISION OF CDTs AND**
26 **CDWs IN THE PERFORMANCE OF THEIR DUTIES AND**
27 **RESPONSIBILITIES."**

28
29 Sec. 13. Sec. 12 of Republic Act No. 10410 is hereby amended to read as
30 follows:

31 "SEC. [12] 14. *Financing ECCD Programs.* – ECCD programs shall
32 be financed through a combination of public and private funds. All public

1 ECCCD program providers shall prioritize children [~~from age zero (0) to four~~
2 ~~(4)]~~ **BELOW FIVE (5)** years **OF AGE** from families who are in greatest
3 need and who can least afford private ECCD programs.

4 (a) Financial and Technical Support. – The DepED, **THE DILG**,
5 **THE CHED**, the DSWD and the DOH shall support the implementation of
6 the National ECCD System by providing financial and technical support
7 packages to ECCD programs.

8 (b) Other Forms of Support for ECCD Programs. – LGUs shall [~~be~~
9 ~~encouraged to~~] support public ECCD programs in their respective
10 localities. Additional funds may be generated from intergovernmental
11 donors and government financial institutions to support the public
12 programs including the urban poor.

13 There shall be established a fund for an ECCD Program Contracting
14 Scheme with accredited private **SERVICE** providers at the community
15 levels.

16 (c) x x x.”

17
18 Sec. 14. Sec. 13 of Republic Act No. 10410 is hereby amended to read as
19 follows:

20 “SEC. [~~13~~] **15. Annual Report.** – The ECCD Council shall, at the close
21 of each calendar year, submit annual physical and financial reports to
22 Congress, giving a detailed account of its proceedings and
23 accomplishments during the year, making recommendations for the
24 adoption of measures that will improve the National ECCD System and
25 ensuring achievement of universal coverage of ECCD benefits to all
26 children [~~from age zero (0) to four (4)]~~ **BELOW FIVE (5)** years **OF AGE**,
27 within a period of five (5) years.”

28
29 Sec. 15. *Joint Congressional Oversight Committee on ECCD.* – A Joint
30 Congressional Oversight Committee (JCOC) is hereby created to oversee, monitor,
31 and evaluate the implementation and impact of this Act. The JCOC shall be composed
32 of five (5) members each from the Senate and the House of Representatives and shall

1 include the Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Basic Education and the
2 Chairperson of the House Committee on Basic Education and Culture, as Co-
3 Chairpersons; the Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Higher, Technical, and
4 Vocational Education and the Chairperson of the House Committee on Higher and
5 Technical Education; the Chairperson of the Senate Committee on Finance and the
6 Chairperson of the House Committee on Appropriations; and two (2) members each
7 to be designated by the Senate President and the House Speaker from the
8 membership of the Senate Committee on Basic Education and the House Committee
9 on Basic Education and Culture, respectively: *Provided*, That at least one of the two
10 (2) members shall be from the Minority.

11

12 *Sec. 16. Transitory Provision.* – Upon the effectivity of this Act, the CSC is
13 hereby mandated to review the qualification requirements for the current plantilla
14 positions of Day Care Worker I (DCW I) and Day Care Worker II (DCW II), and revise
15 such plantilla position titles and qualification standards to integrate the provisions of
16 this Act including, education, certification, experience, training, and eligibility, among
17 others.

18

19 *Sec. 17. Appropriations.* – The amount needed for the initial implementation of
20 this Act shall be charged against the current year’s appropriations of the ECCD Council
21 and other agencies concerned. Thereafter, such sums as may be necessary for the
22 continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General
23 Appropriations Act (GAA).

24 For LGUs, the same shall be charged in their respective local budgets.

25 Allocations from the Local Government Support Fund under the annual GAA
26 shall include a line-item allocation to support the establishment of CDCs and the hiring
27 of CDTs and CDWs in fourth (4th) and fifth (5th) class municipalities.

28

29 *Sec. 18. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* – The ECCD Council, in
30 consultation with appropriate government agencies and relevant nongovernment
31 organizations, shall formulate and issue the necessary rules and regulations within
32 sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act. The IRR issued pursuant to this section

1 shall take effect thirty (30) days after its publication in a newspaper of general
2 circulation.

3

4 Sec. 19. *Separability Clause.* – If any part or provision of this Act is held invalid
5 or unconstitutional, the other provisions not so declared shall remain in force and
6 effect.

7

8 Sec. 20. *Repealing Clause.* – All other laws, executive orders, presidential
9 decrees, administrative orders, rules and regulations, issuances or parts thereof
10 contrary to or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or
11 amended accordingly.

12

13 Sec. 21. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
14 publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,