

14th CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)

7 JUL -3 A11 :10

SENATE

RECEIVED BY: 

S.B. No. 716

Introduced by Senator Ramon Bong Revilla, Jr.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The accessibility of quality education to all citizens is the main concern of this proposed measure. To concretize this vision, this measure seeks to require all colleges and universities to provide scholarship grants to poor but deserving students.

Article XIV, Section 1 of the Constitution provides that “xxx The State shall protect and promote that the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all.”

In order to enforce this clear mandate of the Constitution, all colleges and universities are hereby required under this measure to give full support in the implementation of an effective scholarship program geared towards the holistic education and training of poor but deserving students and providing them the necessary support mechanism to finish their education.

This measure aims to empower and educate the poor Filipino students by giving them the avenue to finish their college education and pursue a productive career in their life. It is an established fact that quality education is the best and most effective tool in attaining one’s goal in life.

When we educate the poor and provide them with the educational support mechanisms to finish their studies, we proactively contribute to the welfare and well being of this nation.

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


RAMON BONG REVILLA, JR.
Senator

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AN ACT
REQUIRING ALL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO PROVIDE
SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS TO AT LEAST FIVE PERCENT (5%) OF THEIR
STUDENT POPULATION WHO ARE POOR BUT DESERVING STUDENTS,
AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title* – This Act shall be known as the “**Scholarship for the Poor Act of 2007**”

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy* – It is hereby the policy of the State to give priority to Education, 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. Towards this end, there shall be provided scholarships grants to poor but deserving students Filipino students to all colleges and universities.

SECTION 3. *Nature and Extent of Scholarship Grants* – Scholarship grants are hereby granted in the form of free tuition of at least five percent (5%) of the student population in all colleges and universities who are poor but deserving students.

SECTION 4. *Implementing Rules and regulations* – The Secretary of the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS) shall issue the necessary implementing rules and regulations for the speedy and effective implementation of this scholarship program.

SECTION 5. *Effectivity Clause* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,