

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES  
*First Regular Session*

SENATE  
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

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} 7 JUL -3 P5:18  
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SENATE

S. B. No. 866

RECEIVED BY: 

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Introduced by SENATOR EDGARDO J. ANGARA

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

The improvement of the regular officer delivery system of the Philippine Air Force (PAF) has a long-felt need in the military establishment.

The PAF Flying Schools (PAFFS), which is at present, the main source of regular officers in the PAF can no longer cope with the required number and proper training of officer pilots for the PAF because of inadequate facilities and logistical support. Additionally, since a college degree is an academic requirement for entrance into the PAFFS, thousands of our gifted high school graduates are denied the opportunity of serving our country through the PAF simply because they are unable to obtain financial support for a college education.


The creation of Philippine Air Force Academy (PAFA) is a response to this problem in line with the constitutional mandate of guaranteeing equal *access of opportunity for public service*.

Given the inherent political instability of a developing country such as the Philippines, we should see to it that an unwanted relationship among officers often called "regular officer homogeneity" is not created. Concerned Sectors believe that this "officer homogeneity" may endanger a potentially explosive political situation where an Armed Forces is controlled in all its branches, and at all levels, by regular officer school. The creation of the PAF Academy will help preclude this situation.

There is also a need to professionalize the other Air Force officer career areas like aircraft maintenance, avionics and air logistics to further enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of the PAF. These highly specialized career fields cannot be adequately addressed by a traditional military academy like the Philippine Military Academy.

The PAF Academy as conceptualised, is geared towards making available an adequate and dedicated corps of professional Air Force officers with the proper education, training and orientation to lead and manage the complex technologies inherent in the field of aviation.

For the foregoing reasons, the approval of this bill is earnestly requested.

  
EDGARDO J. ANGARA  
Senator

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AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE PHILIPPINE AIR FORCE ACADEMY  
(PAFA) AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

1       **SECTION 1. *Philippine Air Force Academy.*** - There shall be  
2 established in the Philippine Air Force an educational institution to be  
3 known as the Philippine Air Force Academy (PAFA), hereinafter referred to  
4 as the Academy, for the instruction and preparation for military service of Air  
5 Force Cadets.

6  
7       **SECTION 2. *Administration.*** - The Academy as herein established  
8 shall be organized and administered by the Commanding General, Philippine  
9 Air Force (PAF) under the general supervision and control of the Chief of  
10 Staff of the Armed Forces of the Philippines.

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12       **SECTION 3. *Academic Board.*** - The Academic Board of the  
13 Academy shall be composed of the Superintendent, the Dean of the Corps of  
14 Professors, the Commandant of Cadets and the Heads of the departments to  
15 be constituted as follows:

16       (a) The Superintendent and the Commander of Cadets of the Academy  
17 shall be detailed to those positions by the President from the  
18 Officers of the Air Force.

19       (b) The Dean of the Corps of Professors shall be appointed from the  
20 permanent professors who have served as heads of departments of  
21 instructions at the Academy.

22       (c) The Academic Board shall have the power to confer the degree of  
23 Bachelor of Science under the rules and regulations as the Chief of  
24 Staff of the New Armed Forces of the Philippines may prescribe

1           upon all cadets who may hereafter satisfactorily complete the  
2           approved course of studies.

3  
4           **SECTION 4. *Department Title and Faculty.*** - The Chief of Staff of  
5 the Armed Forces of the Philippines may prescribe the titles of each of the  
6 departments of instruction and professors of the Academy However, each  
7 change of the title of a department of professor shall not affect the status,  
8 rank or eligibility for promotion or retirement of, or otherwise prejudice, a  
9 professor of the Academy.

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11           **SECTION 5. *Cadet Corps of the Philippine Air Force.*** - The  
12 student body of the Academy shall be known as the Cadet Corps of the  
13 Philippine Air Force (CCPAF). The President is authorized to appoint  
14 annually, subject to such physical and mental examinations as may be  
15 prescribed, the number of cadets necessary to maintain the Cadet Corps at a  
16 strength of four hundred and not exceed four hundred eighty (480) at any one  
17 time.

18           The strength of the Cadet Corps of the Philippine Air Force is as  
19 follows:

20           (1) Two (2) cadets from each Congressional District nominated by the  
21           Congressional Representative of the District; and

22           (2) Eighty (80) cadets from the Philippines at large which shall be  
23           composed of:

24           (a) Twenty (20) selected in order of merit, as established by  
25           competitive examination from the children of members of  
26           the Armed Forces who were killed in action or died of  
27           wounds or injuries received or diseases contacted in or pre-  
28           existing injury or disease aggravated by active service;  
29           provided, that, children of members of the Armed Forces  
30           who were awarded the Medal of Valor for an act performed  
31           while in the Armed Forces shall automatically qualify for  
32           admission.

33           For the purpose of this Act, a determination by the Line of  
34           Duty Board of the major services that a death is service  
35           connected is binding upon the Secretary of National  
36           Defense.

1 (b) Forty (40) from the enlisted members of the Armed Forces,  
2 twenty (20) from the regular Armed Forces and twenty (20)  
3 from the reserve components of the Armed Force.

4 The Secretary of National Defense shall prescribe  
5 regulations for the selection of candidates under this  
6 subsection.

7 (c) Twenty (20) from the cultural communities as may be  
8 selected by the President.

9 The Academy shall provide for educational and physical facilities for  
10 the recruitment and training of women as members of the Cadet Corps.

11 Four (4) Years from the approval of this Act, women shall be admitted  
12 and shall comprise not less than five per cent (5%) of the strength of the  
13 Cadet Corps at any time.

14 All cadets shall be appointed by the President. An appointment is  
15 conditional until the cadet is admitted.

16 If it is to be determined that, upon the admission of a new class to the  
17 Academy, the number of cadets at the Academy will be below the authorized  
18 number, the Chief of Staff may nominate, as may be qualified, alternates and  
19 other qualified candidates who competed for nomination and are  
20 recommended and found qualified by the Faculty as are necessary to meet  
21 the needs of the Air Force, but not more than the authorized strength of the  
22 Cadet corps.

23  
24 **SECTION 6. *Eligibility for Admission.*** - To be eligible for  
25 admission, a candidate must be:

- 26 (1) Single and must never have been married;  
27 (2) A natural-born citizen of the Philippines;  
28 (3) At least seventeen (17) years of age but not more than twenty two  
29 (22) years of age on the first day 04 April of the year of admission;  
30 (4) At least high school graduate;  
31 (5) A successful examinee; of the prescribed physical and mental  
32 examination; and  
33 (6) A successful examinee of the National Secondary Assessment Test.

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35 **SECTION 7. *Pay and Allowances.*** The pay and allowances of the  
36 Cadets of the Academy shall be fixed by the President.

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2           **SECTION 8. *Undertaking.*** - Each cadet shall sign an agreement that  
3 unless sooner separated by duly authorized authorities, he shall:

4           (1) Complete the course of instruction at the Academy;

5           (2) Accept an appointment and serve as a commissioned officer of the  
6           Armed Forces of the Philippines for at least eight years  
7           immediately after graduation from the Academy.

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9           **SECTION 9. *Cadet Requirement.*** - Any Cadet who shall after  
10 entrance to the Academy and before completion of prescribed courses of  
11 training, be found physically and mentally unfit for military assignment by  
12 reason of injury or disease incident to the service, shall be retired with the  
13 rank of a second lieutenant of the Armed Forces of Philippines.

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15           **SECTION 10. *Prohibition Against Hazing.*** Subject to the approval  
16 of the Secretary of National Defense, the Superintendent of the Academy  
17 shall issue rules and regulations preventing hazing and prescribe dismissal  
18 suspension, and other adequate punishment for violation thereof.

19           For the purpose of this Act, "hazing" means any unauthorized  
20 assumption of authority by a cadet whereby another cadet suffers or is  
21 exposed to any form of injury, indignity, humiliation, hardship or oppression  
22 or the deprivation or abridgement of any right.

23           If a cadet is charged with violating any rule or regulation issued  
24 pursuant to this Section, the penalty of which is dismissal from the Academy,  
25 a request in writing for a trial by a general court martial may be submitted.

26           A cadet dismissed from the Academy for hazing shall not be  
27 reappointed as an Air Force Cadet and shall be ineligible for appointment as  
28 a commissioned officer in the Armed Forces of the Philippines unit after two  
29 (2) years from the graduation of this class.

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31           **SECTION 11. *Commission.*** - Upon satisfactory completion or the  
32 course of instruction at the Academy, the cadets shall be commissioned  
33 second lieutenants in the regular force or the Philippine Air Force with the  
34 relative rank in the order of final general standing as determined by the  
35 Academic Board of the Academy and approved by the Chief of Staff of the  
36 Armed Forces of the Philippines.

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**SECTION 12. *Transfer of Assets and Liabilities.*** - The Philippine Air Force Flying School, including the members of its faculty and personnel, its records, equipment assets and liabilities are hereby transferred to and integrated with the Philippine Air Force Academy.

**SECTION 13. *Budget.*** - The initial appropriations necessary for the establishment of the Academy shall be charged to the appropriation of the Department of National Defense. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the improvement, operation and maintenance of the Academy shall be charged to the appropriation of the Department of National Defense. Thereafter, the amount necessary for the improvement, operation and maintenance of the Academy shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

**SECTION 14. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect upon its approval.

*Approved,*