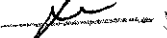


6 JUN -7 2011

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SENATE

Senate Bill No. 2295

INTRODUCED BY SEN. MANNY VILLAR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

During the Twelfth Congress, several measures rousing the need for the Institutionalization of Preparatory Education have been temporarily put to hold because the National Early Childhood Care and Development Coordinating Council (NECCDCC) was not yet organized then.

The Committee on Basic Education and Culture consolidated the issues and has resolved to urge President Gloria Arroyo to organize the Council in order that immediate action on matters relating to early child care and development will be undertaken.

Research studies on early childhood development had established that the most critical years in a child's life are from birth to six (6) years of age. These are the years that a child's development is fastest and when basic character, skills, aptitude, abilities, values and intelligence are formed. When properly developed, these qualities shape the individuals' overall perspective and preparedness for life. The experiences and learning effect on their psyche and intellectual development as well as on the development of their social and motor skills.

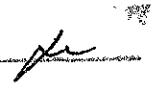
In the recent SONA of Pres. Arroyo, included in her "10-Point" Agenda is focused on the primary, formative years of children. She stressed that Congress must legislate an extra year of studies not by adding a fifth year of high school but by strengthening and standardizing what is taught in the Day Care Centers.

In view of the foregoing, approval of this Bill is earnestly sought.


MANNY VILLAR

13th CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
Second Regular Session

6 JUN -7 1950

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SENATE

Senate Bill No. 2295

INTRODUCED BY SEN. MANNY VILLAR

AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING PREPARATORY EDUCATION IN THE BASIC
EDUCATION SYSTEM

Be ^{it} enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the
Philippines in Congress assembled:

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Preparatory Education Act."

SECTION 2. Declaration of Policy. - It is hereby declared the policy of the State to institutionalize and provide all Filipino children, from five (5) to six (6) years old, free preparatory education to strengthen the physical, social and intellectual skills which promotes patriotism, citizenship, civic discipline and value formation;

SECTION 3. Definition. - For the purpose of this Act, the terms and phrases shall mean as follows:

a) **Pre-school education** shall refer to the year of schooling prior to joining the formal schooling in Grade I.

b) **Department** shall refer to the department of Education.

SECTION 4. Implementing Agency. - The pre-school education program shall be promoted and implemented by the Department of Education and the local government units through the organization of preparatory school classes in public elementary schools and in community and learning centers in the

municipality, consistent with section 7 of RA 8980 otherwise known as the ECCD Law.

SECTION 5. *Functions.* – The Department, through the National Early Childhood Care and Development Coordinating Council (NECCDCC), shall ensure that all Grade one (1) entrants shall have the prescribed preschool experience.

The Department shall have the following functions:

- a) Promote ECCD program in schools and shall be under the joint responsibility of the Principal and PTCA.
- b) Formulate the standard preparatory education curriculum in order to attain quality and efficiency in service.
- c) Administer oversight function to all pre-school education service providers;
- d) Formulate and develop teacher's and students' materials and general guidelines for the organization and operation of pre-schools, as well as determine, approve textbooks and instructional materials;
- e) Provide regular training program to pre-school teachers;
- f) Formulate standards and accreditation criteria for non-government, community-based and private pre-school service providers;
- g) Coordinate with Teacher Education Institutions in developing pre-school degree program;
- h) Perform other duties as maybe necessary and relevant to ensure that all pre-school aged population has equitable access to quality pre-school services.

SECTION 6. *Responsibilities of Local Government Units.* – It is the responsibility of the local government unit concerned to (a) promote and implement pre-school services in the municipality; and (b) support all parent and community based organizations to initiate the establishment and operation of a pre-school program.

SECTION 7. *School Accreditation.* – All non-government, community based and private pre-school service provider must be accredited, based on the prescribed criteria by the Department.

SECTION 8. *Rules and Regulations.* – The Department, in consultation with appropriate government agencies, non-governmental organizations and concerned civil society, shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation of this Act within a period of ninety (90) days after its approval.

SECTION 9. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, executive orders and rules and regulations contrary to or inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 10. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,