


THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES }
Second Regular Session

6 JUN -7 P3:15

SENATE

S. No. 2305

RECEIVED BY: 

INTRODUCED BY HON. MANNY VILLAR

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Tuition fee and other school fee increases have become a perennial headache to parents and students in private schools.

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and the Department of Education (DepEd) authorizes all private schools, colleges and universities to determine their own tuition and/or other school fees provided that appropriate consultation shall be conducted by the school administration with various sectors such as parents, teachers, students and other similar groups in compliance with Sec. 10 of Republic Act No. 6728. The definition of "consultation," however, needs to be clarified. Republic Act 6728 merely defines "consultation" as presentation of audited financial statements of the school to rationalize its new tuition rates to various sectors of the educational community.

This bill intends to provide a mechanism whereby different sectors of our educational system can equally exercise their rights to express their positions in any proposed increase in the rate of tuition and/or other school fees. It is hoped that the informed participation of all affected sectors can be solicited and considered before a major decision such as a tuition increase can be made.


The immediate passage of this bill is requested.


MANNY VILLAR

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE }
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES }
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6 JUN -7 P3:05

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S. No. 2305

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**AN ACT AMENDING SECTION 10 OF REPUBLIC ACT 6728 OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS GOVERNMENT ASSISTANCE TO STUDENTS AND TEACHERS IN PRIVATE
EDUCATION (GASTPE)**

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

SECTION 1. Section 10 of Republic Act 6728 otherwise known as Government Assistance to Students and Teachers in Private Education is hereby amended to read as follows:

"Section 10. Consultation - AT LEAST SIX (6) MONTHS PRIOR TO [In] any proposed IMPLEMENTATION OF AN increase in the rate of tuition fee AND/OR OTHER SCHOOL FEES, there shall be a COMPREHENSIVE AND appropriate consultation conducted by the school administration with duly organized parents and teachers associations, [and] faculty [associations] AND NON-ACADEMIC FACULTY ASSOCIATIONS with respect to ELEMENTARY AND secondary schools, and with students, governments, or councils, alumni, faculty and NON-ACADEMIC FACULTY ASSOCIATIONS with respect to colleges. NOTICE OF THE ACTUAL DATE OF CONSULTATION SHALL BE GIVEN TO CONCERNED SECTORS AND CONCERNED SECTORS AND CONSPICUOUSLY POSTED ON ALL THE SCHOOL BULLETIN BOARDS AND PRINTED IN THE CAMPUS PAPER BEFOREHAND. AUDITED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS, EXPANSION AND INVESTMENT PLANS, CURRENT SALARIES AND PLANNED SALARY INCREASES FOR SCHOOL PERSONNEL SHALL BE MADE AVAILABLE TO ALL AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES OF THESE SECTORS AT LEAST FIFTEEN (15) DAYS PRIOR TO THE DATE OF CONSULTATION. For this purpose, [audited financial statements shall be made available to authorized representatives of these sectors.] "CONSULTATION" MEANS HOLDING A MEETING OR DIALOGUE WITH THE AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ABOVE-MENTIONED SECTORS, WHERE THEY CAN DEMOCRATICALLY EXPRESS THEIR POSITIONS ON THE

PROPOSED INCREASE ON TUITION FEES AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES.
Every effort shall be exerted to reconcile possible differences.

In case of disagreement, AN ARBITRATION BODY SHALL BE CREATED COMPOSED OF REPRESENTATIVES OF the alumni association of the school or any other impartial body [of their choosing shall act as arbiter] COMPOSED OF PEOPLE MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE TO CONCERNED PARTIES AND SECTORS TO RESOLVE ALL THE DIFFERENCES WITHIN FIFTEEN (15) CALENDAR DAYS.

ANY DECISION MADE BY THE ARBITRATION BODY SHALL BE APPEALABLE TO THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED) IN THE CASE OF ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY LEVELS, AND THE COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED) IN THE CASE OF TERTIARY LEVEL.

ALL APPEALS AND MOTIONS FOR RECONSIDERATION REFERRED TO THE DEPED AND CHED SHALL BE RESOLVED WITHIN THIRTY (30) CALENDAR DAYS. NO INCREASE IN TUITION AND/OR OTHER SCHOOL FEES SHALL BE COLLECTED OR IMPLEMENTED PENDING THE FINAL DECISION OF THE DEPED OR CHED.

NO STUDENT OR PARENT SHALL BE REQUIRED TO SIGN ANY CONTRACT OR AGREEMENT RESPECTING INCREASE IN TUITION AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES AS A PRE-CONDITION FOR ENROLLMENT OR FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

SECTION 2. All laws, decrees, ordinances, rules and regulations, inconsistent with the Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) national newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,