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REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
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SENATE

RECEIVED BY: JM

S. No. **1534**

Introduced by Senator JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Our country's school system is still lacking in so many ways. Though many Filipino children demonstrate an above average general intellectual ability and potential ability in the many fields of science and mathematics, our school system cannot give merit to this student. Thus, students are forced to accept whatever little the school can offer.


Though, it is the responsibility of the state to provide scholarships, grant-in-aids, and other forms of incentives to deserving science students, researchers, scientists, investors, technologists and specially-gifted children (Article XIV, Sec. 11, 1987 Constitution) have been given little attention and support by the government. To create an environment where their expertise can be developed and utilized for the benefit of the Filipino people, a bill that will establish a national program for Filipino gifted children and science-oriented youth is needed.

Early approval of this bill is earnestly requested.


JUAN MIGUEL F. ZUBIRI

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AN ACT
CREATING A NATIONAL PROGRAM FOR FILIPINO GIFTED CHILDREN AND
SCIENCE-ORIENTED YOUTH, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES.

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 "Gifted Children
2 and Science-Oriented Youth Act"

3 SEC. 2. **Declaration of Policy.** It is the policy of the State to recognize
4 and discharge its responsibilities to strengthen and actively promote the Filipino
5 family as the foundation of the nation and actively promote its total development
6 (Article XV, Sec. 1 of the 1987 Constitution); provide scholarships, grants-in-aid,
7 other forms of incentives to deserving science students, researchers, scientists,
8 investors, technologists, and specially gifted citizens (Article XIV, Sec. 11 of the
9 1987 Constitution); create an environment where their expertise can be
10 developed and utilized for the benefit of the Filipino people; provide the structures
11 to implement the same; and appropriate funds to support the program on a
12 sustained basis.

13 SEC. 3. **Objectives.** In line with the above policy, the State shall pursue
14 the following objectives:

- 15 a) Identify the gifted Filipino children and science-oriented youth at the
16 earliest age possible;
- 17 b) Establish a Center for the identification and nurturance of Filipino gifted
18 children and science-oriented youth;
- 19 c) Provide scholarship grants and other forms of assistance for identified
20 Filipino gifted children and science-oriented youth;

- 1 d) Provide funds for research and development, curriculum development,
2 training or parents, teachers and other personnel and the necessary
3 infrastructure to carry out the objectives and programs in nurturing of
4 the identified Filipino gifted children and science-oriented youth;
- 5 e) Provide incentives to government institutions and the private sector
6 that will participate in the implementation of this Act; and
- 7 f) Establish and maintain linkages with national, and international
8 institutions involved in progress on giftedness.

9 **SEC. 4. Definition of Terms.** For purposes of this Act, the following
10 terms shall be defined as:

- 11 a) Gifted children – are those who have at least above average general
12 intellectual ability and who have demonstrated superior achievement
13 and/or potential ability in any of the following areas:
- 14 1. Verbal/Linguistic Intelligence is the ability to use with clarity the core
15 operations of language. Poets, writers, journalists, and
16 broadcasters/talk show hosts may exhibit linguistic intelligence;
 - 17 2. Logical/Mathematical Intelligence is the ability to reason, recognize
18 and solve insignificant problems, explore abstract systems and
19 explain physical reality. Scientists, mathematicians, researchers,
20 and engineers may demonstrate logical and mathematical
21 intelligence;
 - 22 3. Body Kinesthetic Intelligence is the control of one's body motion,
23 gross and fine motor dexterity. Actors, dancers, athletes, acrobats
24 may possess body/kinesthetic intelligence;
 - 25 4. Visual/Spatial Intelligence is the ability to perceive space
26 accurately, conjure mental images and transform it to produce
27 graphic likeness of the spatial information. Painters, sculptors,
28 cartographers, surgeons, architects, navigators have highly
29 developed spatial intelligence;
 - 30 5. Musical/Rhythmic Intelligence is the ability to use the set of musical
31 elements: pitch, rhythm and timbre and the qualities of a tone.
32 Musical intelligence maybe demonstrated by singers, composers,
33 instrumentalists, conductors;
 - 34 6. Leadership Ability refers to inter-personal and intra-personal
35 relationship skills, capacity to influence others, skills in planning,
36 judgment and problem solving. Highly developed leadership ability
37 is seen, for example, among student achievers in various fields,
38 executives, legislators.

- 1 b) Science-oriented youth – are those who have demonstrated at least
2 above average performance in science and mathematics and superior
3 ability in the following areas:
4 1. intellectual ability; and
5 2. logical mathematical ability
6 c) Identification – is the process of assessing potential or demonstrated
7 giftedness or science-orientedness through instruments approved or
8 developed by the Center as provided for in Section 6 (f) of this Act.
9 d) Nurturance – is a process of providing opportunities to develop and
10 enhance the full potential of identified Filipino gifted children and
11 science-oriented youth.
12 e) Center – as used in this Act, refers to the Center for the Gifted
13 Children and Science Oriented Youth.

14 **SEC. 5. Center for the Gifted Children and Science Oriented Youth.**

15 A center that will carry out the aforementioned objectives shall be established by
16 the Board of Regents of the University of the Philippines (U.P.). The Center shall
17 perform its functions in coordination with relevant government agencies and the
18 private sector.

19 The Center for the gifted children and science-oriented youth shall be
20 headed by an executive director and such other needed personnel as shall be
21 determined by the U.P. Board of Regents.

22 **SEC. 6. Program Components.** In pursuance of the objectives of this
23 Act, as embodied in Section 3, the Center, in coordination with relevant
24 government agencies and the private sector, shall implement the following
25 program components:

- 26 a) Identification and placement of gifted children and science-oriented
27 youth. The Center shall ensure proper assessment, identification and
28 placement of gifted children and science-oriented youth in appropriate
29 educational institutions and assist them in securing proper job/work
30 placement in the country.
31 b) Scholarship. The Center shall provide scholarship and other forms of
32 assistance for gifted children and science-oriented youth and assist
33 them in securing scholarships/study grants in colleges and universities.
34 c) Training for teachers and other personnel. The Center shall provide
35 continuing training programs for teachers, guidance counselors,
36 psychologists, administrators and other personnel to upgrade their
37 competence in identifying and nurturing the gifted children and
38 science-oriented youth.

1 d) Training of parents on parenting and nurturing of gifted children and
2 science-oriented youth. Since the home plays a vital role in the
3 development of children, the Center shall provide parents training in
4 nurturing and counseling of gifted children and science-oriented youth.

5 e) Curriculum development. The Center shall provide for the
6 development of learner-appropriate curriculum and instructional
7 materials for gifted children and science-oriented group.

8 f) Development of assessment tools. The Center shall provide for the
9 development of national assessment tools for the identification of gifted
10 children and science-oriented youth as provided in Section 4 of this
11 Act.

12 g) Accreditation. The Center shall accredit schools, institutions or
13 agencies providing education programs for the gifted children and
14 science-oriented youth except for those which are already recognized
15 and accredited by the Department of Education, Culture and Sports
16 and the Philippine Science High School System under the Department
17 of Education, Culture and Sports and the Philippine Science High
18 School System under the Department of Science and Technology.

19 The Center shall assist accredited schools/institutions or agencies
20 to secure grants for their programs.

21 h) Research and development. The Center shall formulate a research
22 and development program for gifted children and science-oriented
23 youth which will serve as a framework to guide relevant government
24 agencies and the private sector.

25 The Center shall accept donations, gifts, and grants and lead in
26 generating funds to support the research and development programs
27 of accredited institutions.

28 i) Linkages and networking. The Center shall establish and develop
29 internal and external linkages and networks with government and non-
30 government organizations, international organizations, and agencies
31 involved in providing programs for the gifted children and science-
32 oriented youth.

33 **SEC. 7. Advisory Council.** The Center shall have an Advisory Council
34 to ensure the effective coordination and implementation of the program
35 established under this Act.

36 The Advisory Council shall be chaired by the President of the U.P. System
37 and co-chaired by the Secretary of the Department of Science and Technology
38 (DOST) and the Secretary of the Department of Education (DepEd) with the

1 following members: 1) Chairman of the National Commission for the Culture and
2 the Arts; 2) Executive Director of the Philippine Science High School System;
3 3) Director of the Philippine Science High School for the Arts; and 4) two private
4 sector representatives from industry and institutions involved in providing
5 programs for gifted children and science-oriented youth to be appointed by the
6 U.P. Board of Regents.

7 **SEC. 8. Incentives for Private Individuals and/or Entities.** Donations
8 to the Center shall be deposited in a trust fund to be used in accordance with the
9 provisions of this Act. Gifts, bequest in the form of cash, building, land or
10 improvements thereon from private entities or individuals in support of programs
11 for gifted children and science-oriented youth, as certified by the Center, shall be
12 exempt from the donor's tax: *Provided, however, that not more than thirty*
13 *percent (30%) of said gifts shall be used by such donee for administration*
14 *purposes. The same donations shall be considered as allowable deductions*
15 *from the gross income of the donor. Said tax exemptions shall be granted in*
16 *accordance with the provisions of the National Internal Revenue Code, as*
17 *amended.*

18 **SEC. 9. Appropriations.** The amount necessary for the implementation
19 of this Act shall be included in the General Appropriations Act of the year
20 following its enactment into law and thereafter.

21 **SEC. 10. National Celebration of Giftedness.** In recognition of the
22 efforts and contributions of the gifted, the President of the Philippines shall
23 declare one week each year as National Giftedness Week.

24 **SEC. 11. Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).** The University
25 of the Philippines in collaboration with DOST and DepEd shall formulate the
26 Rules and Regulations to implement this Act.

27 **SEC. 12. Repealing Clause.** All laws, decrees, orders, rules and
28 regulations, or portions thereof, inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed,
29 amended or modified accordingly.

30 **SEC. 13. Effectivity.** This Act shall take effect on the day following its
31 complete publication in at least two newspapers of general circulation.

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33 Approved,