


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

8 JAN 14 2017

**SENATE**

RECEIVED BY: 

**S. NO. 1998**

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**Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

This bill seeks to provide, consistent with the mandate imposed by the Constitution under Article XIV, guarantee and protection to Filipino children who are bona fide residents of the town or city where the school is located in their access to educational facilities and services.

It is guaranteed by no less than the fundamental law under Section 1 of Article XIV on Education that "The State shall 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."

Moreover, Section 4(1) of the said Article recognizes the complementary roles of public and private institutions in the educational system and mandates that the State shall exercise reasonable supervision and regulation of all educational institutions.

Section 5(1) of the said Article, furthermore, stresses the significance of taking into account the regional and sectoral needs and conditions and the encouragement by the State of local planning in developing educational policies and programs, as well as in ensuring access to quality education in the local level.

In view of the foregoing, approval of the bill is strongly recommended.

  
**ANTONIO "SONNY" F. TRILLANES**  
Senator

FOURTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
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SENATE  
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RECEIVED BY: [Signature]

Introduced by Senator Antonio "Sonny" F. Trillanes IV

**AN ACT  
PROVIDING FOR THE DEMOCRATIZATION OF PUBLIC SCHOOL EDUCATION**

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

1           **SECTION 1.**           *Title.* - This Act shall be known as the "*Public School*  
2           *Democratization Law of 2008*".

3  
4           **SEC. 2.**           *Declaration of Policy.* - In order to strengthen the mandate of the  
5           Constitution concerning education under Article XIV, it is hereby declared the policy of the State  
6           to afford full protection to and assure access to quality education for Filipino children who are  
7           bona fide residents of a particular province or city where the school is located.

8           Pursuant to the foregoing state policy, this Act shall consolidate and institutionalize  
9           existing government efforts in effecting meaningful programs on education.

10  
11           **SEC. 3.**           *Prohibited Act.* - It is hereby declared unlawful for any public school  
12           official, principal, faculty, or employee to refuse admission of any student in a primary or  
13           secondary public school, for whatever reasons, in a community where the said student is a *bona*  
14           *fide* resident as certified by the Barangay Captain.

1

2           **SEC. 4.       *Promulgation of Rules and Regulation.*** – The Department of Education  
3 shall promulgate implementing rules and regulations liberalizing access to education for Filipino  
4 children who are residing in the same municipality, city, or province where the school is located.

5

6           **SEC. 5.       *Penal Clause.*** – Any public school official, principal, faculty, or employee  
7 who violates any provision of this Act, or the rules and regulations thereof shall, after  
8 undergoing administrative due process, be punished with one (1) month suspension from service  
9 and fined with five thousand pesos (P5,000.00) for the first offense, dismissal from service and  
10 temporary disqualification to hold public office for a period of six (6) months for the second  
11 offense; and dismissal from service and perpetual disqualification to hold public office for the  
12 third offense.

13

14           **SEC. 6.       *Appropriations.*** - The amount necessary for the implementation of this  
15 Act shall be taken from the funds of the Department of Education and shall be included in the  
16 annual General Appropriations Act.

17

18           **SEC. 7.       *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, ordinances, rules and regulations, and other  
19 issuances or parts thereof which are inconsistent with this Act, are hereby repealed or modified  
20 accordingly.

21

22           **SEC. 8.       *Separability Clause.*** - If for any reason any section or provision of this  
23 Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections or provisions thereof, shall not be  
24 affected thereby.

1

2           **SEC. 9.     *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect upon its complete publication in at  
3 least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,