


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

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SENATE  
 S. No. 2069

RECEIVED BY: 

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Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

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#### EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article 11, Section 13, provides:

Section 13. The State recognizes the role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual and social wellbeing. It shall inculcate in the youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civil affairs.

Service to the community is a responsibility of all Filipinos, regardless of their economic level or age. Serving other builds self-esteem and teaches teamwork, decision-making, and problem-solving.

Students, from kindergarten to college, offer a powerful and largely untapped resource for community service. The government, therefore, should encourage students to engage in productive work with visible community benefits in a natural resource or human service setting, in order to give them a mix of work experience, basic and life skills education, training, and support services.

Children who become engaged in community service early will understand better the responsibilities of citizenship and often continue to serve the community into adulthood. To this end, this bill seeks to establish a program that will expand opportunities for students to serve their communities.

  
 MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO



1 (C) The term “appropriate government agency” means a public agency that is  
2 engaged in meeting human, social, educational, or environmental needs.

3 (D) The term “participant” means a student or out-of-school youth who provides  
4 services pursuant to a program provided in this Act.

5 (E) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary of Education.

6 (F) The term “service opportunity” means a program or project enabling students  
7 to perform meaningful and constructive service in agencies, institutions, and situations  
8, where the application of human talent and dedication may help to meet, human, social,  
9 educational, and environmental community needs, especially those relating to poverty.

10 (G) The term “student” means an individual who is enrolled full-time or part-time  
11 in an elementary or secondary school or institution of higher education.

12 SECTION 4. *School and Campus Based Community Service.* – The Secretary  
13 shall, in coordination with the Commission on Higher Education, National Youth  
14 Commission, Department of Social Welfare and Development and other appropriate  
15 government agencies and community-based agencies, establish a national program that  
16 will provide opportunities for students work with visible community. Such  
17 comprehensive program shall provide productive work with visible community benefits  
18 in a natural resource or human service setting and give participants a mix of work  
19 experience basic and life skills education, training and support services.

20 SECTION 5. *Incorporation in the Curriculum.* – Such program shall be  
21 incorporated into the curriculum as a separate subject and shall require students, before  
22 they are allowed to graduate from elementary, high school or college, as the case may be,  
23 to render community service by participating in the program.

24 SECTION 6. *Program Components.* – The Secretary, in carrying out the program,  
25 shall:

1 (A) encourage cooperative efforts among education institutions, local government  
2 agencies, community-based agencies, business to provide service opportunities, including  
3 those that involve the participation of urban, suburban, and rural youth working together;

4 (B) ensure that economically and educationally disadvantaged students are  
5 offered service opportunities;

6 (C) describe the goals of the program, including goals that are quantifiable,  
7 measurable, and show benefits to the participants and the community;

8 (D) formulate programs that --

9 (1) provide an age-appropriate learning component for participants to  
10 reflect on service experiences;

11 (2) give pre-service and in-service training for both supervisors and  
12 Participants involving representatives of the community where service-  
13 opportunities will be provided; and

14 (3) provide evidence that participants will make a sustained commitment  
15 to the service project.

16 (E) involve individuals of different ages, sexes, ethnic groups, and economic  
17 backgrounds serving together.

18 SECTION 7. *Rules and Regulations.* – The Secretary shall formulate the  
19 necessary rules and regulations in carrying out the provisions of this Act.

20 SECTION 8. *Appropriation.* – The national government shall appropriate such  
21 amounts as may be necessary to carry out the provisions and objectives of this Act.

22 SECTION 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof, is held invalid  
23 or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law of the provision not otherwise affected shall  
24 remain valid and subsisting.

25 SECTION 10. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,  
26 executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to

1 or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended  
2 accordingly.

3 SECTION 11. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days  
4 after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

5 Approved,