

THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Third Regular Session)

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SENATE
S. B. No. _____

RECEIVED BY: [Signature]

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution, Article II, Section 17, states that:

“The State shall give priority to education, science and technology, arts, culture, and sports to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development.”

Providing education to the youth is one of the most noble professions. Given the overwhelming importance of the role of public school teachers in educating the youth, there is a need to instill professional and personal integrity of teachers by giving them the recognition and the benefits that they deserve.

Under Republic Act No. 4670, otherwise known as the “Magna Carta for Public School Teachers Act”, it was declared as a policy to promote and improve the social and economic status of public school teachers, their living and working conditions, their terms of employment and career prospects in order that they may compare favorably with existing opportunities in other walks of life, attract and retain in the teaching profession more people with the proper qualifications, it being recognized that advance in education depends on the qualifications and ability of the teaching staff and that education is an essential factor in the economic growth of the nation as a productive investment of vital importance.

Miriam Defensor Santiago
MIRIAM DEFENSOR SANTIAGO
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THIRTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
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SENATE
S. B. No. 110

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(11)

Introduced by Senator Miriam Defensor Santiago

AN ACT
INSTITUTIONALIZING SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS TO PUBLIC
SCHOOL TEACHERS AND THEIR CHILDREN

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title.* - This Act shall be known as the “Scholarship Grants to Public School Teachers and their Children Act of 2007”.

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It shall be the policy of the State to provide access to free education to public schools teachers and their children by providing for them institutionalized scholarship grants. The scholarship grants to public school teachers will give them high morale and self esteem. Providing their children access to free education will help them become responsible and productive members of society.

SECTION 3. *Definition of Terms.* – The following terms shall mean:

1. “Public school teachers” – shall refer to all persons engaged in classroom teaching, in any level of instruction, on full-time basis or part-time basis, including guidance counselors, school librarians, industrial arts or vocational instructors, and all other persons performing supervisory and/or administrative functions in all schools, colleges and universities operated by the Government or its political subdivisions; but shall not include school nurses, school physicians, school dentists, and other school employees.

2. "Children of public school teachers" – shall refer to legitimate children of public schools teachers
3. "Free educational scholarship grant" – scholarship grants covering pre-school, elementary, secondary, and tertiary education.

SECTION 4. *Scholarship grant.* – The scholarship grants for public school teachers and their children shall cover preschool, elementary, secondary, as well as tertiary education.

SECTION 5. *Eligibility of public school teachers to avail of grant.* – Public school teachers who are in active service shall be eligible to avail of the scholarship grants to enroll in any masteral or post graduate course. Provided, that the public school teacher shall have been in active duty for at least two consecutive years immediately prior to the date of application for the grant.

SECTION 6. *Eligibility of children of public school teachers to avail of grant.* – Only legitimate children of public school teachers who are in active service shall be eligible to avail of the scholarship grant.

SECTION 7. *Eligibility of retired public school teachers to avail of grant.* – Retired public school teachers may avail of the scholarship grant for their children. However, their children shall be entitled only to a proportional amount of scholarship grant.

SECTION 8. *Schools where scholarship grant applicable.* – The scholarship grant shall be applicable in all public schools and state universities throughout the country. The children of public school teachers shall be qualified to avail of the scholarship grant only upon passing all the requirements set by the respective schools.

SECTION 9. *Forfeiture of Grant.* – Public school teachers who have been charged and proven to have committed acts of professional misconduct shall forfeit their eligibility to avail of the grant. They shall also forfeit the eligibility to avail of the grant for their children.

SECTION 10. *Implementing Agency.* – The Department of Education (DepEd) and Commission on Higher Education (CHED) shall be the implementing agencies for this Act. The above agencies shall formulate the implementing rules and regulations for this Act.

SECTION 11. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part thereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 12. *Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule or regulation contrary to, or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act is hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SECTION 13. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.