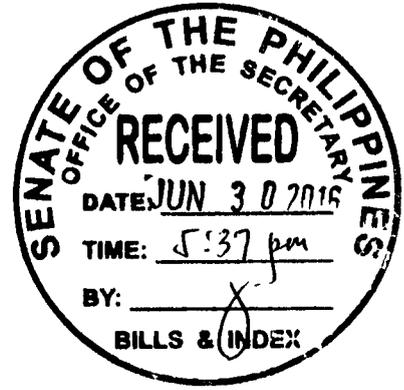


SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS OF THE REPUBLIC)
OF THE PHILIPPINES)
First Regular Session)



SENATE
S.B. No. 173

Introduced by: Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino IV

**AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING A FULL SUBSIDY PROGRAM IN STATE UNIVERSITIES
FOR CHILDREN OF PUBLIC SCHOOL TEACHERS, PROVIDING FUNDS THEREOF, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Who would appreciate the great value of education more than the very people who have dedicated their lives to teaching in our public schools?

Many of our public school teachers sacrifice higher paying jobs and more comfortable working environments to answer their calling of educating those from less fortunate families. Their act of public service is invaluable to the lives of their students and molding the future of our country.

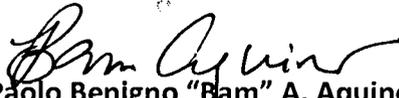
But as they fulfill their vocation in the field of education, they too struggle to afford the tuition fees to send their own children to school. With the meager salaries of public school teachers, paying for a college education comes as a heavy burden.

To unburden our modern-day heroes and to promote the value of education and becoming an educator, this bill endeavors to provide full tuition subsidies available in all State Universities and Colleges in the Philippines for the children of public school teachers.

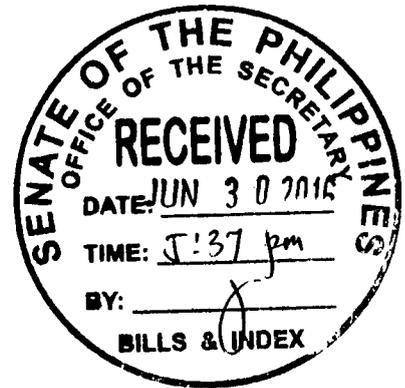
This measure is in line with our efforts to improve access to quality education for every young Filipino and sends the message that becoming an educator within our public school system is a dignified vocation worthy of special benefits from the State.

Let's continue to support and reward citizens who take part in nation-building and creating a brighter future for the next generation of young Filipinos.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.


Senator Paolo Benigno "Bam" A. Aquino IV

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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 "Free Education for
2 Public School Teachers' Children Act."

3 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – The State shall give priority to education, science
4 and technology, arts, culture, and sports to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate
5 social progress, and promote total human liberation and development. It is further
6 declared a policy of the State to take positive and effective measures towards the
7 promotion of the morale and welfare of public school teachers. Furthermore, the State
8 recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-building and shall promote and protect
9 their physical, moral, spiritual, intellectual, and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the
10 youth patriotism and nationalism, and encourage their involvement in public and civic
11 affairs.

12 **SEC. 3. Full Education Subsidy Program.** – There is hereby adopted a Full
13 Education Subsidy Program, a nationwide program that offers full subsidy to all the
14 children of public school teachers in all levels who want to pursue baccalaureate
15 degrees or short-term training courses in State Universities.

16 The Full Subsidy Program shall cover 100% of the tuition fee and other
17 miscellaneous expenses necessary upon the enrollment of the student in a State College
18 or University.

1 **SEC. 4. Qualifications.** – Children of public school teachers who possess all the
2 following qualifications shall be automatically granted the full subsidy under the
3 program:

- 4 a. Must be a Filipino Citizen;
- 5 b. Parent is a regular public school teacher as certified by the Department of
6 Education;
- 7 c. Shall have passed the respective academic eligibility requirements of the State
8 University or College upon entry;
- 9 d. Shall not have availed of any foreign/local scholarship grant from the
10 government;
- 11 e. Must not have attained a bachelors degree or equivalent degree from any higher
12 education institution, whether public or private;
- 13 f. Must not have been dishonorably discharged from any higher education
14 institution, whether public or private, for any reason other than financial
15 difficulty in paying tuition and other fees;
- 16 g. Must not have been convicted of any crime involving moral turpitude;
- 17 h. Persons who fail to regain good academic standing within their respective state
18 universities and colleges after one (1) year upon being placed on academic
19 probation or delinquent status.

20 **SEC. 5. Sources.** - The sources of funds for the implementation of this Act shall be
21 as follows:

- 22 a. For its first year of implementation, the appropriations set aside by State
23 Universities and Colleges for scholarships and subsidies;
- 24 b. For the succeeding years of implementation, such amounts as are needed shall
25 be included in the annual General Appropriation Act and complemented by the
26 savings generated from the different bureaus, offices and agencies and by the
27 contributions extended by private corporations, companies and entities.

28 **SEC. 6. Private Sector Initiative.** - Private sectors are encouraged to align their
29 existing free education or scholarship programs with the Full Education Subsidy
30 Program. Contributions to the fund shall be deductible from the annual taxable income
31 to the extent of twenty (20%) thereof in case of individual taxpayers and one hundred
32 twenty percent (120%) thereof in the case of corporations, firms or entities, or such
33 contributions may be considered as an input value-added tax, at the election of the
34 contributor.

35 **SEC. 7. Rules and Regulations.** - The Commission on Higher Education, in
36 coordination with the Department of Education and the UNIFAST Board, shall formulate
37 the necessary rules and regulations for the implementation of the Act and determine

1 the process for claiming the full subsidy and other responsibilities of the grantee within
2 the parameters of this Act.

3 **SEC. 8. *Separability Clause.*** - If for any reason, any provision of this Act is
4 declared to be unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions hereof which are not
5 affected thereby shall continue to be in full force and effect.

6 **SEC. 9. *Repealing Clause.*** - All laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations or
7 parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended
8 or modified accordingly.

9 **SEC. 10. *Effectivity.*** - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete
10 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general
11 circulation, whichever comes earlier.

12 *Approved,*