

Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City



First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO.: 422

Introduced By: **HONORABLE JOSE CARLOS V. LACSON**

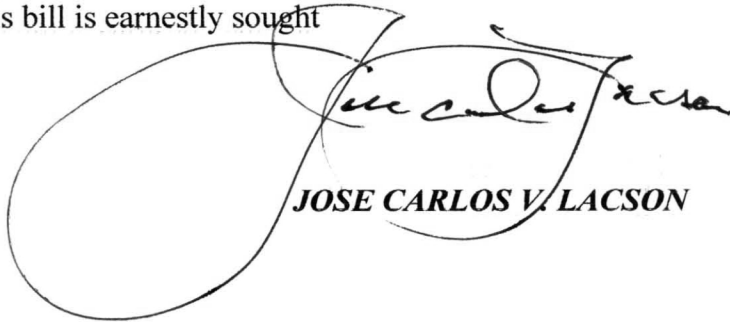
Explanatory Note

This bill seeks to penalize schools, colleges, and universities, which refuse admission of, qualified scholars of the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO).

Scholarships are granted to qualified children of the Philippine Veterans by the PVAO. However, it has been reported the various school nationwide turned down enrolment of thousands of PVAO scholars due to accumulated unpaid school bills. High ranking PVAO officials and field officers have to appeal to owners, presidents and registrars of several colleges and universities in their areas to admit the scholars on a "study now, pay later" scheme, and payments will be made as soon as the funds become available.

It should be remembered that these scholars are the children of Philippine Veterans who risked their lives and fought for our freedom. Some of them died defending our country. Due recognition should be given to them. Their children who wished to complete their education and have bright futures should be protected. Schools, which would deny them admission, even on "study no pay later" schemes have to be penalized.

Approval of this bill is earnestly sought



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AN ACT PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR SCHOOLS, COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES WHICH REFUSE ADMISSION OF QUALIFIED SCHOLARS OF THE PHILIPPINE VETERANS AFFAIRS OFFICE.

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

SECTION 1. In the implementation of RA No. 6948, as amended, entitled, "An Act Standardizing and upgrading the benefits for Military Veterans and their dependents", any school, college or university which shall refuse admission of qualified scholars of the Philippine Veterans Affairs Office (PVAO) for reason of delayed payment of tuition and other fees by the PVAO shall, after due notice and hearing, be penalized by a fine of not less than Ten Thousand Pesos (P10, 000.00) for the first offense; Twenty Thousand Pesos for the second offense; and fifty thousand pesos (P50, 000.00) for the third offense.

SECTION 2. All complaints covered under this act shall be filed with the Commission on Higher Education (CHED).

SECTION 3. The fines collected as provided under Section I hereof shall be deposited to the scholarship funds of the PVAO.

SECTION 4. The SHED in coordination with the PVAO shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the complaint filed under this Act.

SECTION 5. All Laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SECTION 6. This act shall take effect upon its approval.

Approved,