CONGRESS OF THE PHILIPPINES
THIRTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

House Bill No. 1456

1456

INTRODUCED BY **HON. CYNTHIA A. VILLAR**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It is truly ironic that teachers in public and private institutions of higher learning who teach and educate children whose parents can afford to send them to these schools very often cannot afford to have their own children go through college. Many of them scrimp, denying themselves of even the basic and ordinary needs of life in the hope that they too can send their children to good schools.

If government and private institutions of higher learning, because of their own financial limitations, cannot give their teachers decent pay to help them send their children to college, other remedies have to be resorted to. This bill seeks to provide one such remedy: exempt children of teachers in public and private secondary institutions of higher learning from paying tuition and other school fees when they enroll at the educational institutions where one or both of their parents are teaching.

This exemption actually constitutes an additional economic benefit extended by the institutions concerned to its own teachers. The scheme does not involve cash disbursements and loss of income on the part of the educational institution. The exemption will not be substantial as to affect the financial viability of the institution. On the other hand, the educational institution will be more than compensated for in terms of a boost in the morale, loyalty and dedication to work of its teachers.

Approval of this measure is highly recommended.

CYNTHIA A. VILLAR

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AN ACT TO ENTITLE CHILDREN OF TEACHERS AND EMPLOYEES IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE INSTITUTIONS OF HIGHER LEARNING TO FREE TUITION AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES

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

SECTION 1. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is declared the policy of the State to extend other economic benefits to children of teachers and full-time employees of public and private schools, colleges, universities and post-secondary vocational and technical institutions free tuition and other fees in the educational institution where either or both parents are employed, to form part of the economic benefits due to said teachers and employees by virtue of their employment. This policy is meant to help alleviate the difficulties encountered by teachers and employees of an educational institution whose sweat and labors are spent in the service of the said educational institution that benefits children other than their own because their inadequate pay cannot meet the high costs of college education.

SEC. 2. *Definitions.* – For purposes of this Act, the term "teachers" shall mean all persons in classroom teaching in a level of instruction from kindergarten to college, including but not limited to guidance counselors, vocational trainers, technical instructors, all persons performing supervisory and/or administrative functions and others

performing similar tasks or occupying equivalent positions: *Provided,* That said "teachers" serve on a full-time and regular basis in the educational institution where he is employed.

The term "employees" shall cover employees other than "teachers" who serve on a full-time and regular basis in the educational institution where they are employed.

SEC. 3. *Exemption from Payment of Tuition and other School Fees.* – Children of teachers and employees of public schools, colleges, universities and other post-secondary institutions of learning, pursuing their studies in the educational institutions where either or both their parents are teaching or employed shall be exempt from payment of tuition and other school fees. Children of teachers and employees of private schools, colleges, universities and other post-secondary institutions of learning, pursuing their studies in the educational institution where either or both parents are teaching or employed shall enjoy minimum benefits, and that the first child of the teacher or employee shall enjoy a one hundred percent (100%) exemption while the succeeding children will have at least fifty percent (50%) exemption from the payment of tuition and other school fees: *Provided, however,* That either or both parents have been teaching or employed in said institution for at least one (1) year at the time the exemption is claimed: *Provided, further,* That either or both parents continue to teach or remain employed at the educational institution where they are enrolled.

SEC. 4. *Exemption Part of Employment Contract.* – The exemption granted under this Act shall be deemed part of the employment contract entered into between the educational institution and its teachers and employees and shall be in addition to salaries and wages and other rights

and benefits extended to teachers, employees and students provided for under existing laws.

SEC. 5. *Effectivity Clause.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,