

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Thirteenth Congress
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2355



Introduced by Honorable Tomas M. Dumpit

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Unpaid school bills by PVAO to different educational institutions accumulated to more than 102 million pesos as of FY 2002. This is due to the enactment of Republic Act No. 7696 which provides among others, the extension of the grant of educational benefits to direct descendants of veterans. The unpaid school bills was aggravated by the increase in number of World War II veterans entitled under the law to avail of the educational benefit as a result of confirmation made by Military Service Board pursuant to Republic Act No. 8440.

To rationalize and arrest the ballooning budget requirement for the educational benefit program for veterans and their beneficiaries, PVAO took the initiative of amending the implementing rules and regulations for this benefit with the assistance of the Department of National Defense. Hence, Department Order No. 157 dated 08 October 2002 was promulgated with the following salient features: (1) Educational benefit is confined to one basic course/degree; (2) Granting of period of entitlement is for a fixed period; and (3) Educational benefit is non-transferable, except under exceptional circumstances.

Of late, PVAO even resorted to the issuance of letters of guarantee of payment to concerned schools during enrolment or examination period due to decreasing budget appropriations being given to the Office for this purpose.

The bill seeks to provide for an alternative mode of payment for matriculation and other fees to proprietary educational institutions which are accommodating scholars of PVAO and eventually put an end to the perennial problem of lack of funds for the said benefit.

Approval of this bill is earnestly sought.

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AN ACT

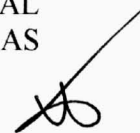
PROVIDING FOR AN ALTERNATIVE MODE OF PAYMENT FOR ALL SCHOOL FEES UNDER THE EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS, THEREBY AMENDING SECTION 3 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 6948, AS AMENDED, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS 'AN ACT STANDARDIZING AND UPGRADING THE BENEFITS FOR MILITARY VETERANS AND THEIR DEPENDENTS'

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

SECTION 1. Section 3 of Republic Act No. 6948, is hereby amended to read as follows:

‘Sec. 3. Eligibility – Any person who rendered military service in the land, sea, or air forces of the Philippines during the revolution against Spain, the Philippine-American War, World War II, including Filipino citizens who served in allied forces in the Philippine territory and foreign nationals who served in the Philippine forces or of any recognized or deserving guerrilla organization who took active participation in the resistance movement and/or in the liberation drive against the enemy during World War II, or of the Philippine Expeditionary Forces to Korea, or of the Philippine Civic Action Group or Philippine Contingent in Vietnam, who has never heretofore enjoyed educational benefit under Philippine law nor under the United States law, who desires to study; or one direct descendant of a deceased veteran in whose favor he renounces such right; or the surviving spouse or a direct descendant of a deceased veteran in whose favor the same is applied for by the surviving spouse or by the legal guardian; shall, upon certification of the Administrator, be admitted to any school, college, university or institution authorized by the Government with all school fees including tuition, matriculation, athletic, library, laboratory, medical, military training, diploma and graduation fees, at the expense of the Government, subject to rules and conditions promulgated by the Administrator.’

‘PROVIDED, HOWEVER, THAT IN CASE OF PROPRIETARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS MENTIONED AND AS DEFINED IN SECTION 27 (B) OF THE NATIONAL INTERNAL REVENUE CODE (NIRC) OF 1997 AS AMENDED, ALL THE SCHOOL FEES HERETOFORE TO BE PAID TO THE SAID EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS FOR THE EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS GRANTED UNDER THIS LAW SHALL BE DEEMED AS



DONATION TO THE GOVERNMENT THAT MAY BE USED AS DEDUCTION FROM GROSS INCOME OF SAID INSTITUTIONS IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 34 (H) (2) (A) OF THE NIRC.”

SEC. 2. All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect upon approval.

Approved,

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