

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

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 1734

INTRODUCED BY HON. MARCELINO R. TEODORO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The Constitution provides that the "State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels, and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all."

Unfortunately, given the many pressing concerns besetting the country, exacerbated by the seemingly crippling economic conditions of late, the government has failed to live up to its mandate.

So many problems abound. Current budgetary allocation for education, pegged within the vicinity of twelve to fourteen percent of the entire national budget compared to 35.5% in the fifties, along with other issues ranging from lack of classrooms to lack of competent teachers, only make it extremely difficult for government to extricate itself from this convoluted educational mess.

Consider the following facts:

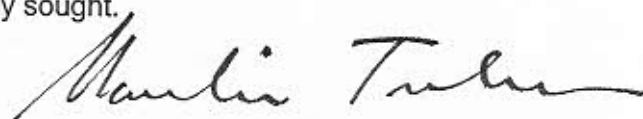
Based on existing records, 1 in 10 Filipinos has never gone to school (6.8 million). 1 in 6 Filipinos is not functionally literate (9.6 million), while 4.1 million are illiterate. Textbook shortage is pegged at 25 million; public-school teacher close to 50,000 and 8.5 percent of schoolchildren are malnourished.

Given this, it will require concerted efforts by, and pooling of resources from all sectors and branches of government to critically respond to urgent issues and long-term concerns relevant to education. Each step undertaken is crucial and will contribute immensely in the realization of this important objective of finally bringing back education at the forefront of government priorities.

The purpose of this bill is to help alleviate problems on education by providing extension classes on selected degree, diploma or undergraduate courses offered by state universities and colleges. For these extension classes, enrollment and class meetings will be held in any available high school campus in the locality chosen for the Program by the state universities and colleges with the incumbent principal acting as the head of the college extension program and designated as Local Campus Administrator.

Through this measure, the government will be able to give true color to its constitutional mandate of securing the RIGHT OF ALL CITIZENS to quality education.

Thus, passage of this bill is earnestly sought.



MARCELINO "MARCY" R. TEODORO

Representative, 1st District
City of Marikina

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AN ACT
PROVIDING FOR COLLEGE EDUCATION EXTENSION PROGRAM AND
APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. – This Act shall be known as the "College Education Extension Program Act of 2010."

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is the policy of the State to protect, foster and promote the right of all citizens to affordable quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to ensure that education shall be accessible to all. Toward this end, the State shall establish, maintain and support a complete, adequate and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society.

SEC. 3. College Education Extension Program. – A College Education Extension Program, herein referred to as the Program, is hereby established to provide another alternative education by bringing the tertiary education to local communities. For this purpose, the Department of Education and Commission on Higher Education are, in coordination with state universities and colleges, hereby mandated to devise ways to implement the Program in accordance with the guidelines provided for under this Act.

SEC. 4. Guidelines. – The Program shall be implemented in accordance with the following guidelines:

- a) The Program shall provide extension classes on selected degree, diploma or undergraduate courses offered by state universities and colleges;
- b) Enrollment and classes will be held in any available high school campus in the locality chosen for the Program by the state universities and colleges with the incumbent principal acting as the head of the college extension program and designated as Local Campus Administrator;
- c) Records of the students shall be sent to the main campus of the state university or college to show proof that the said students graduated from such school;
- d) Classes will be conducted after the regular classes of high school students but shall not go beyond nine o'clock in the evening, Monday to Saturday;
- e) The academic policies and standards of the state university or college shall be implemented; and

- f) The compensation of the faculty or personnel serving in the Program shall be taken from the tuition fees paid by the students and subsidies provided for the purpose by the local government units concerned.

SEC. 5. College Extension Board. – There is hereby created a College Extension Board, hereinafter referred to as the Board, which shall be under the direct supervision and control of the Commission on Higher Education. The Board shall administer the College Education Extension Program all over the country.

The Board shall be composed of a Commissioner of the Commission on Higher Education as chairman, an undersecretary of the Department of Education as vice chairman and three (3) members who shall be appointed by the President of the Philippines from nominees taken from the roster of professors of state universities and colleges in the locality.

SEC. 6. Powers and Functions. – The Board shall have the following powers and functions:

- a) Promulgate and implement such rules and regulations as may be necessary to carry out the purposes of this Act;
- b) Formulate a curricula, with the prior approval of the Commission on Higher Education, which shall be used for the Program;
- c) Confer degrees upon successful candidates for graduation and award certification of completion for non-degree programs;
- d) Fix the compensation, hours of service, leaves of absence and such other terms and conditions as may be deemed proper for college extension faculty;
- e) Fix the tuition fees, graduation fees and other miscellaneous fees of students attending extension colleges;
- f) Enter into memorandum of agreements with local government units and state universities and colleges in order to implement the Program;
- g) Conduct studies and researches for the improvement of the program; and
- h) Perform such other powers and functions as may be deemed necessary to implement the Program.

SEC. 7. Meetings; Quorum. – Regular meetings of the Board shall be on the last Monday of every month. Special meetings of the Board may be called by the Chairman through a notice of meeting issued at least three (3) days before the meeting.

SEC. 8. Academic Standards. – The president of state universities and colleges shall, in coordination with the College Extension Board, set the required academic standards and units of the curriculum to be adopted and offered by extension colleges taking into consideration the amount of time and availability of members of faculty who will conduct the Program.

SEC. 9. Academic Council. – State universities and colleges which shall provide for extension colleges shall create an academic council which shall be composed of the president of the state college or university, a college dean and three (3) members of faculty. The Academic Council shall exercise the following duties:

- a) Formulate policies governing the administration, management and development planning of the extension college;

- b) Appoint instructors, professors and lecturers for the extension college or remove them for cause in accordance with the existing government rules and regulations;
- c) Fix the requirements for admission to the extension college as well as for graduation and the award of title of degrees;
- d) Provide fellowships for deserving faculty members serving in the Program or scholarship to students showing special evidence of merit;
- e) Recommend students to be awarded with titles or degrees; and
- f) Prescribe the rules of discipline for the extension college and exercise disciplinary powers over the students within the limits prescribed by the rules of discipline approved by the College Extension Board.

SEC. 10. Admission. – No student shall be denied admission to the extension colleges by reason of sex, age, nationality, religion or political affiliation.

SEC. 11. Local Government Units. – Local chief executives and heads of the local schools may, through a memorandum of agreement, allow the use of local school facilities for the Program and to detail employees for duties therein: Provided, that such facilities or employees can be spared without detriment to the public service. Employees so detailed shall perform such duties as may be require of them by the head of the local school facility and the time spent under detail shall be compensated as part of their regular services.

Local government units may, through their respective sanggunian, appropriate a sum of money for the compensation of members of faculty and personnel serving in the Program or for the scholarship of qualified and deserving students attending the extension colleges.

SEC. 12. Reportorial Requirement. – On or before the fifteenth day of the July after the opening of regular classes each year, the Board shall file with the Commission on Higher Education a detailed report setting forth the progress, condition and needs of extension colleges and universities.

SEC. 13. Implementing Rules and Regulations. Within sixty (60) days after the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Education and the Commission on Higher Education shall issue the necessary rules and regulations as may be necessary to implement this Act.

SEC. 14. Appropriations. – The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged to the respective appropriations for the state universities and colleges. Thereafter, the sum needed for the continuing implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

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

Approved,