

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2757

Introduced by: Honorable BEN P. EVARDONE

EXPLANATORY NOTE

If our State Colleges and Universities (SCUs) in the Philippines have one thing in common, it's the scant budget they woefully get from the very institution that owns them -- the government.

The meager resources upon which our SCUs operate is common knowledge, but how the government has turned a blind eye on their sorry state of affairs are simply mind boggling. Call it a case of oversight, I say no. Call it the absence of creativity, I don't think so either. It's but plain and simple indifference.

While it's true that Education gets the biggest slice of the pie in the national budget, a closer scrutiny of the Education budget would reveal that our SCUs don't get what they rightfully deserve, prompting our SCU heads to beg from the kind benevolence of lawmakers who have the heart for education and even using fund-raising schemes courtesy of their faculty, alumni and student bodies just to stay afloat -- year after year.

As a matter of course, there's no doubt that our SCUs will survive regardless of the financial difficulties they are going through. But what quality of education could our nation expect from our SCUs when they are struggling for their own survival and could barely get through the hump in the absence of much needed resources that they could tap to upgrade their facilities and academic well being.

Of course, it's also understandable that the coffers of the government are never enough. No administration ever had that luxury in recent memory. But one is certain, the government is not that hopeless is looking for ways and means to remedy the situation -- once and for all.

If the state-run Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. (Pagcor) would only give ten percent (10%) of its gross income of about Thirty Billion (P30,000,000,000.00) annually, which means that our SCUs will get an extra Three Billion (P3,000,000,000.00) for themselves every

year, as intended by this bill, imagine how far they would go in their pursuit of excellence and academic development specially for scholarship program.

It's high time we increase our stake in the human resource development of the younger generation of our people, which can only be done by elevating our educational system to competitive levels here and abroad.

The immediate passage of this bill which will amend Sec. 12 of P.D. 1869 otherwise known as the Pagcor Charter is therefor a must.



BEN P. EVARDONE
Lone District of Eastern Samar

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AN ACT FURTHER AMENDING SECTION TWELVE (12) OF PRESIDENTIAL DECREE 1869 AS AMENDED AND ALLOCATING A PORTION OF THE FUNDS GENERATED BY THE PHILIPPINE AMUSEMENTS AND GAMING CORPORATION TO STATE RUN UNIVERSITIES AND COLLEGES AS FINANCIAL SUPPORT.

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

Section 1. Section twelve (12) of Presidential Decree 1869 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 12. Special Condition of Franchise. — After deducting five (5%) percent as Franchise Tax, the fifty (50%) percent share of the government in the aggregate gross earnings of the Corporation from this Franchise, or 60% if the aggregate gross earnings be less than P150,000,000.00, shall immediately be set aside and shall accrue to the General Fund to finance the priority infrastructure development projects and to finance the restoration of damaged or destroyed facilities due to calamities, as may be directed and authorized by the Office of the President of the Philippines.

Ten (10%) percent of the Corporation's gross income shall be set aside for the support of State run Colleges and Universities which must be released directly in full from the Philippine Amusements and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR) to State run Universities and Colleges. Earnings of the corporation from the previous year must be released at least one month before every opening of the school year, to be distributed based on student

population pro-rata among all State run Universities and Colleges in the Philippines.

Section 2. *Repealing Clause.*--- All laws, decrees, executive orders, administrative orders, rules or regulations, inconsistent herewith are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

Section 3. Effectivity. --- This Act shall take effect fifteen days after its publication in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved.