

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Batasang Pambansa, Quezon City

FIFTEENTH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4597

INTRODUCED BY REP. JOSEPH VICTOR G. EJERCITO

EXPLANATORY NOTE

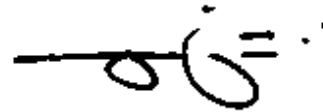
Education serves as the foundation for sustained economic growth. For young people who have it stand to reap enormous benefits and success while those who do not are very likely destined to a life of hardship, trials and want.

As more and more young people waste away in the slums, streets and sweatshops, the country suffers from an intellectual and moral drain. The lack of educational opportunity for young people is truly one of the worst tragedies that we witness.

In a study conducted on Philippine education, it was concluded that of the one (100) pupils who entered basic education, only eight (8) to ten (10) will possibly get college education. This is indeed an upsetting situation.

This bill seeks to draw our focus and attention to the ever-pressing need for the availability of quality education. This measure, along with other complementing bills will hopefully reverse the situation and give the impoverished youth some hope for the future. Thus, all educational institutions will be required to grant full tuition scholarships to at least 10% of its college student population.

It is for these reasons that the approval of this bill is fervently sought.



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AN ACT REQUIRING ALL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO PROVIDE COLLEGE SCHOLARSHIP GRANT TO AT LEAST TEN PERCENT (10%) OF THEIR STUDENT POPULATION WHO ARE POOR BUT DESERVING STUDENTS, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. *Short Title* - This Act shall be known as "**The Scholarship Program for Poor but Deserving Students Act.**"

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy* - The State shall give priority to education, protect and promote the right of all citizens to qualify education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all. Towards this end, there shall be provided scholarship grants for poor but deserving Filipino students.

SECTION 3. *Nature and Extent of Scholarship Grants* - College Scholarship grants are hereby extended in the form of free tuition fee to at least ten percent (10%) of the student population of all colleges and universities who are poor but deserving students.

SECTION 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations* - The Secretary of the Department of Education shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the speedy and effective implementation of this scholarship program.

SECTION 5. *Effectivity* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from its complete publication in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,