

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

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS

First Regular Session

House Bill No. **2358**



Introduced by **Rep. EVELIO R. LEONARDIA**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to provide an opportunity for qualified poor but deserving students to pursue college education by virtue of a scholarship grant.

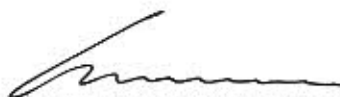
It is embodied in the Constitution that the State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such education accessible to all. Pursuant to this mandate, Congress passed the Free Secondary Education Act of 1988 to provide free secondary education to the less-privileged and the poor.

Unfortunately, however, many high school graduates from the low income sector of society have no means to pursue college education. More unfortunate are those among these graduates who possess above average intelligence and who are intellectually capable and ready to continue with their education have families which have no means to provide them with such opportunity.

It is the theme of this Bill that education is the greatest equalizer.

There is a need therefore for government to come to the rescue of these students. It is our responsibility to provide them with good education so as to aid them in becoming productive members of society. This will also be a giant step towards achieving an inclusive growth in the country.

The foregoing reasons warrant the approval of this measure.


REP. EVELIO R. LEONARDIA
Lone District, Bacolod City

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AN ACT
REQUIRING ALL COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES TO PROVIDE
SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS TO POOR BUT DESERVING STUDENTS
REPRESENTING AT LEAST ONE PERCENT (1%) OF THE TOTAL
STUDENT POPULATION

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the
2 “Scholarship Grants for Poor but Deserving Students Act of 2013”.
3

4 **SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy.** – It is the declared policy of the State
5 to give highest priority to education, protect and promote the rights of all
6 citizens to quality education and it shall take appropriate steps to make such
7 education accessible to all. Towards this end, there shall be granted
8 scholarship to poor but deserving students in all colleges and universities.
9

10 **SEC. 3. Definition.** - As used in this Act, the term “poor but
11 deserving students” shall refer to any Filipino student who graduated high
12 school with academic weight average of at least eighty-five percent (85%) and
13 whose family has no visible means of income or with an annual income of not
14 more than sixty thousand pesos (P60,000.00).
15

16 **SEC. 4. Coverage.** – Scholarship grants shall cover only free
17 tuition fees to any poor but deserving students as defined under the

1 immediately preceding Section. The scholarship grantees shall not be less
2 than one percent (1%) of the total student population of the college or
3 university.

4
5 **SEC. 5. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** – The Secretary of
6 the Department of Education (DepEd) and Chairperson of the Commission on
7 Higher Education (CHED), in consultation with the heads and leaders of duly
8 recognized organizations of colleges and universities, shall promulgate the
9 rules and regulations to implement this Act.

10
11 **SEC. 6. Separability Clause.** – If any part, section or provision of this
12 Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions not affected therein
13 shall remain in force and effect.

14
15 **SEC. 7. Repealing Clause.** – All laws, decrees, and executive orders
16 inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

17
18 **SEC. 8. Effectivity Clause.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
19 days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) national
20 newspapers of general circulation.

21
22 Approved.
23
24