

Republic of the Philippines  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS  
First Regular Session

House Bill No. 2667



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Introduced by Representatives  
DIOSDADO MACAPAGAL ARROYO and GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO

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**AN ACT**  
**ESTABLISHING THE ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION TO PROMOTE**  
**ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND FOR OTHER**  
**PURPOSES**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

According to Article XIV, Section 1, of the 1987 Constitution, *"The State shall protect and promote the right of all citizens of our country to quality education at all levels."* Despite this provision of the Constitution, however, and various other laws which seek to promote good quality education, the Philippines has been left behind by its neighbors in Asia when it comes to providing good quality education.

Recent surveys reveal that Filipino school children have declined in terms of academic performance especially in the fields of science and mathematics. This decline has been attributed to high teacher-student ratio, poor facilities and lack of textbooks. Also, most of our teachers who teach the subjects of Physics, Chemistry, or Math lack the expertise or the knowledge to teach these subjects effectively.

In line with the aforementioned Constitutional provision on good quality education, this bill therefore seeks to create an Academic Excellence Foundation with the primordial duty of promoting academic excellence both in public and private schools all over the country through public-private entity partnerships. The Foundation shall develop programs that shall push for the advancement of the concept of academic excellence.

Due to the foregoing reasons, the swift approval of this measure is earnestly requested.



**DIOSDADO MACAPAGAL ARROYO**  
Second District, Camarines Sur



**GLORIA MACAPAGAL ARROYO**  
Second District, Pampanga

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**ESTABLISHING THE ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE FOUNDATION TO**  
**PROMOTE ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS**  
**AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

*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 "Academic Excellence Act of 2013."

SECTION 2. *The Academic Excellence Foundation.* – There is hereby created the Philippine Academic Excellence Foundation whose purpose shall be to promote academic excellence in public and private schools all over the country through public-private entity partnerships. The foundation shall be a nonprofit organization. The board of directors of the foundation and foundation activities shall be under the direction of the Department of Education (DepEd).

SECTION 3. *Board of Directors of the Foundation.* – The board of directors of the foundation shall consist of the Secretary of DepEd and twenty (20) members appointed by the President. Of the twenty (20) members appointed by the President, eight (8) shall represent a variety of education groups and twelve (12) shall represent a variety of business groups. The members of the board of directors shall select one member to serve as chair. The DepEd Secretary shall serve as secretary for the board of directors and provide administrative support to the foundation. An executive committee of the

foundation board composed of the board officers and chairs of board committees, may only advise and make recommendations to the foundation board.

SECTION 4. *Programs of the Foundation.* – The foundation may develop programs that advance the concept of educational excellence. These may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) recognition programs and awards for students demonstrating academic excellence;
- (b) summer institute programs for students with special talents;
- (c) recognition programs for teachers, administrators, and others who contribute to academic excellence;
- (d) summer mentorship programs with business and industry for students with special career interests and high academic achievements;
- (e) President's awards ceremonies and special campaigns to promote awareness and expectation for academic achievement;
- (f) an academic league to provide organized challenges requiring cooperation and competition for public and private pupils in elementary and secondary schools;
- (g) systemic transformation initiatives and assistance and training to community teams to increase school performance in the country's education institutions through strategic quality planning for continuous improvement, empowerment of multiple stakeholders, validation of results via customer-supplier relationships, and a total system approach based on best practices in key process areas; and
- (h) activities to measure customer satisfaction for delivery of services to education institutions in order to plan for and implement continuous improvement.

To the extent possible, the foundation shall make these programs available to students in all parts of the country.

SECTION 5. *Powers and Duties of the Foundation.* – The foundation may:

- (1) establish and collect membership fees;
- (2) publish brochures or booklets relating to the purposes of the foundation and collect reasonable fees for the publications thereof;

(3) receive money, grants, and in-kind goods and services from non-governmental sources for the purposes of the foundation;

(4) contract with consultants;

(5) expend money for awards and other forms of recognition and appreciation; and

(6) determine procedures and expenditures for awards and recognitions to teachers, students, donors, and other people who are not employees of the executive branch.

SECTION 6. *Contracts.* – The foundation board shall review and approve each contract of the board. Each contract of the foundation board shall be subject to the same review and approval procedures as a contract of the Department of Education.

SECTION 7. *Foundation Staff.* - (a) The foundation board with review by the DepEd Secretary shall appoint the executive director and other staff who shall perform duties and have responsibilities solely to the foundation.

(b) As part of the annual plan of work, the foundation, with review by the DepEd Secretary, may appoint up to three (3) employees. The employees appointed under this paragraph shall not be considered an employee of the government. The employees shall be supervised by the executive director.

SECTION 8. *Private Sources of Funds.* – The foundation shall seek private resources to supplement the available public money. Individuals, businesses, and other organizations may contribute to the foundation in any manner specified by the board of directors. All money received shall be administered by the board of directors.

SECTION 9. *Report.* – The board of directors of the foundation shall submit an annual report to the Secretary of the DepEd on the progress of its activities. The annual report shall contain a financial report for the preceding year, including all receipts and expenditures of the foundation.

SECTION 10. *Separability Clause.* – If any provisions, or part hereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law of the provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 11. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

SECTION 12. *Effectivity Clause.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days following its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

*Approved,*