

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

SIXTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4816



Introduced by: Hon. Angelina "Helen" D.L. Tan, M.D.

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Education constitutes an extremely significant factor in a country's development. It serves as the backbone of all industrialized and industrializing economies in the world today.

The 1987 Constitution made sure that education would be given the foremost priority of the government by providing under Article XIV, Section 1 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."

Moreover, it stipulates that the State should establish and maintain a system of scholarship grants, student loan programs, subsidies, and other incentives, which shall be available to deserving students in both public and private schools, especially to the underprivileged.

Considering the high cost of education in the private educational institutions and the decreasing subsidies in the State Universities and Colleges, large number of Filipino youth suffers the anxiety and uncertainty of not finishing their education. Should the State continue to neglect its duty to provide adequate support to poor but deserving students, the country may face not only an intellectual but moral hemorrhage in the future.

Thus, this measure seeks to require private academic institutions, schools, colleges and universities to allot free scholarships to poor but deserving students as a condition for any grant of increase in tuition or other school fees. This proposal sets a mechanism and support system for the poor but deserving students so that they would be able to finish their education and provide the country the needed intellectuals for national development, growth and prosperity.

The bill was patterned after Presidential Decree 451 and which scholarship program was repealed in the late 80s.

Early cognizance of this bill is earnestly sought.


ANGELINA "HELEN" D.L. TAN, M.D.
4th District, Quezon

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HOUSE BILL NO. 4816

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AN ACT
REQUIRING THE EXPANSION OF SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM BY PRIVATE
ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS, COLLEGES, UNIVERSITIES AND SCHOOLS AS A
CONDITION FOR THE INCREASE IN TUITION FEE AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES
APPLICATION

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

SECTION 1. It is hereby made a condition for any grant of increase in tuition or other school fees applied for by private academic institutions, schools, colleges and universities with a total enrolment of at least two hundred (200) students or pupils to allot free scholarships to poor but deserving students at the ratio of one (1) free scholarship for every one hundred (100) students or pupils: Provided, That this requirement shall be exclusive of the present practice of private schools offering scholarship privileges to valedictorians, salutatorians and other students or pupils who have achieved scholastic distinctions. Neither shall other forms of scholarships such as those offered to athletes and working students be included in arriving at the proper number of poor but deserving students or pupils to be given free scholarships.

SEC. 2. The Department of Education (DepEd) and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) shall jointly prepare, formulate and issue the necessary implementing rules and regulations that would define the program, the students or pupils who will qualify for free scholarships, the process and similar other provisions. In the formulation of the rules and regulations, private sector representatives, owners of schools, colleges, universities and private institutions and concerned sectors shall be consulted by the DepEd and CHED.

SEC. 3. This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in two (2) newspapers of general circulation or in the Official Gazette.

Approved,