



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

Sixteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 4943



Introduced by Honorable Julieta R. Cortuna

EXPLANATORY NOTE

It shall be the duty of the state to protect the welfare of its people including the well being of every individual. By ensuring that every province nationwide shall have quality medical practitioners who will serve the government, access to health care in every province will significantly improve. The state shall counter the current trend of doctors of not serving the rural areas due to the less attractive prospects of medical practice thereat, considering the huge expenses that a person will entail to study medicine.

The scholarship program will provide the state the tool to combat perception that medical practice in the rural areas is not desirable. Eliminating the cost aspect in the study of medicine, individuals who intend to go into the medical practice can avail of a scholarship program if given the right circumstances.

In view of the foregoing, passage of this bill is hereby being earnestly sought.


JULIETA R. CORTUNA



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AN ACT
ESTABLISHING A MEDICAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM TO ENSURE THE
AVAILABILITY OF DOCTORS IN EVERY PROVINCE NATIONWIDE

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

1 **SECTION 1.** *Declaration of Policy.* It shall be the duty of the state to protect the
2 welfare of its people including the well being of every individual. By ensuring that every
3 province nationwide shall have quality medical practitioners who will serve the
4 government, access to health care in every province will significantly improve. The state
5 shall counter the current trend of doctors of not serving the rural areas due to the less
6 attractive prospects of medical practice thereat, considering the huge expenses that a
7 person will entail to study medicine.

8 The scholarship program will provide the state the tool to combat perception that
9 medical practice in the rural areas is not desirable.

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11 **SECTION 2.** *Scholarship.* There shall be established a scholarship program for
12 medicine to be implemented by the University of the Philippines' College of Medicine.

- 13 a) The program shall accept at least five (5) beneficiaries coming from every
14 province in the country nationwide as recommended by the Provincial Governor.

- 1 b) The beneficiaries shall be required to serve the provincial hospital of their
2 province for at least ten years. If a particular province has no provincial hospital
3 with which the beneficiaries can serve, the governor shall nominate the
4 government hospital which the beneficiary can serve complying the conditions
5 that the governor may require to offset the absence of the provincial hospital.
- 6 c) The scholarship program shall include free tuition, book allowance, housing
7 accommodation, transportation allowance and other necessary expenses to
8 complete the study of medicine without requiring the beneficiary any cost other
9 than his due diligence in the study of medicine.

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11 **SECTION 3. *Appropriation.*** The University of the Philippines shall include in their
12 annual budget the funds necessary to implement the provisions of this Act.

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14 **SECTION 4. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** The Commission on Higher
15 Education in collaboration with the University of the Philippines shall issue the necessary
16 rules and regulation for the purpose of implementing the provisions of this Act.

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18 **SECTION 5. *Repealing Clause.*** All laws or parts of any law, orders, rules, and
19 regulations or parts thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended
20 accordingly.

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22 **SECTION 6. *Effectivity Clause.*** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
23 publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

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25 Approved,