

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session



HOUSE BILL NO. 6731

Introduced by: **"KUYA" JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO**

AN ACT
PROVIDING FREE EDUCATION FOR THE CHILDREN OF UNIFORMED
PERSONNEL KILLED IN THE LINE OF DUTY

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Our uniformed personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), Philippine National Police (PNP), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) put themselves on the line everyday in the service of our countrymen. They encounter and face danger just to keep us safe. Yet, they are lowly paid and most of their families just live above the poverty line. Their courage in the face of danger deserves to be recognized.

Given the growing threats and dangers in the world today, this bill seeks to enact into law a free education for the children of uniformed personnel killed in the act of duty or are permanently incapacitated. This bill seeks to give back to those who risk life and limb for us daily, by granting educational assistance and other benefits for the dependents of our men and women in uniform who are permanently injured or killed in the line of duty.

It is but right that when these heroes die in the line of duty or suffer permanent incapacity while in the performance of their duties, that their families will not suffer. Their death should mean something. They died as heroes and as such their children will be able to finish their schooling, one less burden for the bereaved family to bear.

For the foregoing reasons the passage of this bill is earnestly sought.

"KUYA" JOSE ANTONIO R. SY-ALVARADO
Representative
First District of Bulacan

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

SEC. 1. Title – This Act shall be known as “Slain and Incapacitated Soldiers Free Education Act”.

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy – It is the policy of the State to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education at all levels and to take appropriate steps to make education accessible to all. With that regard, our uniformed personnel of the Armed Forces of the Philippines (AFP), Philippine National Police (PNP), National Bureau of Investigation (NBI), Philippine Coast Guard (PCG), Bureau of Fire Protection (BFP) being in the forefront of protecting lives and property of our countrymen, should have a peace of mind that if anything happens to them in the performance of their duties, that their children will still be able to continue their education until they graduate college.

SEC. 3. Educational Benefit – All personnel of the AFP, PNP, BFP, and PCG, who are killed in the line of duty or has suffered permanent incapacity and those who have served in the Marawi siege shall be qualified for educational benefits for their children in the form of educational scholarships from the time of their death or permanent incapacity until they graduate from a four (4) or five (5) year course in college. All children will also be entitled to a monthly allowance to their daily school needs.

This scholarship is good for any public/government funded school or university, and as such, these children will be a priority and shall be exempted in the payment of any school fees. Those who would avail of this exemption shall still be required to comply with the minimum admission requirements of the school he/she wishes to enroll in. No additional academic requirements shall be imposed on the surviving children who wish to avail of the exemption from payment of tuition fees under this Act.

SEC. 4. Implementing Rules and Regulations - Within sixty (60) days after its approval, the Department of Education, Commission on Higher Education, Department of Social Welfare and Development and Department of Budget and Management shall issue and promulgate rules and regulations as deemed necessary for the evaluation, approval and effective implementation of this Act.

SEC. 5. *Separability Clause* – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause* – All laws, decrees, issuances, orders, rules and regulations or portions thereof, contrary to, or inconsistent with any of the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified or amended accordingly.

SEC. 7. *Effectivity* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from the date of its publication in the Official Gazette and two (2) major newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,

