

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

**SEVENTEENTH CONGRESS**  
Second Regular Session



**HOUSE BILL NO. 7187**

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**Introduced by Rep. Winston "Winnie" Castelo**

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**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Accessible education is a shared responsibility; parents, government, and the private sector all have roles to play. To provide teeth to the principle that the public and private sector have complementary roles in delivering education, the State must also provide support to the private sector.

According to statistics, there are at least 616 private elementary and secondary schools in the Philippines. To encourage private schools to expand their operations and their capabilities, the government should provide an easier and streamlined process for the schools to have easy access to credit.

This measure seeks to provide private schools with easier access to credit in order to help the institutions in their operations and their expansion plans. The bill seeks to help private schools so that they can better perform their role in delivering quality education. In the end, it is the students who will benefit from better facilities, equipment, and well-trained teachers.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is most earnestly sought.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to be "Winnie Castelo".

**WINNIE CASTELO**

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**"AN ACT PROVIDING SUPPORT TO PRIVATE SCHOOLS  
THROUGH EASY ACCESS TO CREDIT"**

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. - This Act shall be known as the "Easy Access to Credit for Private Schools".

SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - The State recognizes the important role that private schools play in the developing the youth and that they complement public schools in providing quality education to the country's youth.

SEC. 3. All private schools organized and operating within the Philippines shall be provided support by the government through easier access to credit and streamlined submission of requirements in order to facilitate their operations and expansion plans.

SEC. 4. Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the Department of Education (DepEd), the Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and the Technical Skills Development Authority (TESDA) shall work with the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas (BSP) and other government agencies to develop policies and guidelines that would enable private schools to have easy access to credit.

SEC. 5. *Separability Clause.* - If any provision or section of this Act is held invalid or unconstitutional, the other provisions and sections not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 6. *Repealing Clause.* - All laws, presidential decrees, executive orders, or issuances, or any part thereof which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or two (2) national newspapers of general circulation.

Approved.