



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

Nineteenth Congress
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. **8922**



Introduced by Representative PAUL R. DAZA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The proposed measure seeks to amend Republic Act 10931 otherwise known as Universal Access to Quality Tertiary Education (UAQTE) Act, a landmark legislation which institutionalized free tuition and exemption from other fees in state universities and colleges (SUCs), and local universities and colleges (LUCs) in the country.

While the UAQTE Law undoubtedly made tertiary education more accessible for our financially challenged *kababayans*, there are still many gaps in the statute that need to be addressed to increase its responsiveness to the myriad of challenges confronting our students. One such gap is the inflexibility of the provision in the UAQTE Law which currently governs the targeting and identification system for beneficiaries under said law.

This amendatory measure seeks to provide for much-needed flexibility in the designation of the targeting and identification system of beneficiaries, regardless of policy changes in the coming years. This would effectively future-proof the UAQTE Law so that future generations may also benefit from this statute.

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

PAUL R. DAZA

Representative, 1st District of Northern Samar



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“AN ACT
AMENDING SECTION 7 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10931, OTHERWISE KNOWN
AS THE UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO QUALITY TERTIARY EDUCATION ACT”

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

SECTION 1. Section 7 of Republic Act No. 10931 is amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 7. *TES for Filipino Students.* - To support the cost of tertiary education or any part or portion thereof, a TES is hereby established for all Filipino students who shall enroll in undergraduate-post-secondary programs of SUCs, LUCs, private HEIs, and all TVIs. The TES shall be administered by the UniFAST Board and the amount necessary to fund the TES shall be included in the budgets of the CHED and the TESDA: *Provided, That* prioritization shall be given to students in the following order: (a) members of a 4Ps household beneficiary; (b) all students who are part of the households included in the latest National Household Targeting System/Listahan of the DSWD or the Community-Based Monitoring System (CBMS) of the National Economic and Development Authority (NEDA) and the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), ranked according to estimated per capita household income; and (c) students not part of the latest

NHTS/CBMS or any other system for targeting of beneficiaries, ranked according to estimated per capita household income based on submitted documentation of proof of income to be determined by the UniFAST Board: *Provided, further,* That such prioritization shall not apply to Filipino students in cities and municipalities with no existing SUC or LUC campus: *Provided, finally,* that admission and retention requirements will be streamlined for students or members of 4Ps household beneficiaries.

SEC. 2. *Separability Clause.* If any provision or part of this Act be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the remainder of the provisions not otherwise affected shall subsist and remain valid and effective.

SEC. 3. *Repealing Clause.* All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations which are inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or amended accordingly.

SEC. 4. *Effectivity.* This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,