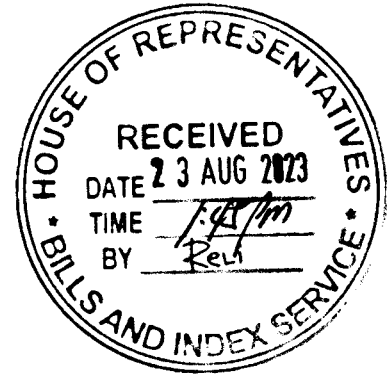


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

House Bill No. **8976**



Introduced by Representative Marjorie Ann "Maan" A. Teodoro

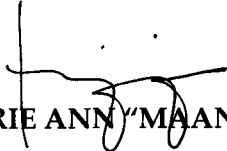
EXPLANATORY NOTE

This bill seeks to provide Scholarship Grants to Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) and their children for their primary, secondary and tertiary education.

According to the United Nations Convention on the Right of Persons with Disabilities, Persons with Disabilities are "those who have long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairments which in interaction with various barriers may hinder their full and effective participation in society on an equal basis with others". Due to this, many of our PWDs experience different kinds of discrimination – social, cultural and economic. However, in spite of their limitations, they should be given the equal right and access to education as reflected under the 1987 Constitution, "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".

As what our parents would normally tell us – our education is their number heirloom to us, and our State as parent to every Filipino, education shall be afforded to those who dream of going to school and graduate from their desired courses. All of our PWDs never wanted to be in this circumstance, yet they experience limitations and discrimination in society, especially in the economic aspect like in education and employment. As much as they want to study, financial limitations hinder them from doing so because of their circumstance, thus, they are not as empowered to attend schools. Furthermore, they would prefer to focus on the education of their children than cater to their dream, especially since the Philippine Statistics Authority in 2018 stated that poverty incidence in households with at least a member with disability is 21.9% compared to households without a member with disability (16.6%).

So imagine if we can cater to the educational needs of both the parent/s and their children for their growth and development, I know they can one day contribute to the economic growth of the country as well. In view of thereof, approval of this bill is hereby sought.


MARJORIE ANN "MAAN" A. TEODORO

Republic of the Philippines
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NINETEENTH CONGRESS
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House Bill No. **8976**

Introduced by Representative Marjorie Ann "Maan" A. Teodoro

AN ACT
GRANTING SCHOLARSHIP TO PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES (PWDs) AND THEIR
CHILDREN AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS THEREFOR AND FOR OTHER
PURPOSES

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

SECTION 1. Short Title. This Act shall be known as the "Scholarship Program for PWDs and their Children"

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. It is the policy of the State to protect and promote the right to health of all citizens to quality education at all levels and shall take appropriate steps to make such educational accessible to all regardless of one's medical condition and age, and establish and maintain a system of scholarship grants and other incentives which shall be available to deserving students in both public and private schools, especially to the underprivileged.

SEC. 3. Scholarship Grants to Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) and their Children. There shall hereby provided Scholarship Grants to PWDs and their children under the supervision of the Department of Education (DepEd) and the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) in coordination with the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD).

SEC. 4. Appropriations. The amount necessary for the effective implementation of this Act shall be charged against the appropriations of DepEd and CHED under the current General Appropriations Act (GAA). Thereafter, such amount as may be necessary for its continued implementation shall be included in the annual GAA.

SEC. 5. Separability Clause. If any portion or provision of this Act is declared invalid or unconstitutional, other provisions hereof shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 6. Repealing Clause. All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations or other issuances or parts thereof inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 7. Effectivity. The Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,