



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Quezon City
NINETEENTH CONGRESS
Third Regular Session



House Bill No. 11179

Introduced by CIBAC Party-List Representative
EDUARDO "BRO. EDDIE" C. VILLANUEVA

EXPLANATORY NOTE

1 The Philippine education sector faces persistent challenges, including limited resources
2 and infrastructure, the need for post-pandemic recovery, restricted access to essential amenities,
3 and a widening digital divide¹. These issues, both direct and indirect, significantly impact
4 learners and underscore the necessity for a comprehensive, nationwide approach to enhance
5 educational access and quality.

6 Republic Act No. 8525, the "Adopt-a-School Act of 1998," encourages private sector
7 involvement to support the "upgrading and modernization of public schools in the country."² As
8 reported by the Adopt-a-School Program Secretariat, data shared with the Second Congressional
9 Commission on Education (EDCOM2) indicates that 476 tax endorsements have been processed
10 since 2018, with tax claims amounting to at least Php413.4 million in 2023. These funds have
11 supported projects such as the provision of equipment and supplies, classroom construction and
12 facility enhancements, and school repairs and renovations³.

13 However, consultations by EDCOM2 reveal that private entities often assist public schools
14 voluntarily, even without tax incentives. The private sector has long been an invaluable
15 government partner in national development, especially in addressing educational challenges.
16 To further encourage public-private collaboration, this proposed measure seeks to strengthen the
17 Adopt-a-School Act by incorporating the following improvements⁴:

- 18 1. **Expanded Assistance Options:** The range of assistance options available to the private
19 sector is broadened to include teacher training, development, and further education for
20 teaching personnel, daycare and child development workers, technical-vocational
21 trainers, and others. Additionally, it includes scholarships, certifications for work-related
22 skills, construction and renovation of school facilities, and provision of books, school
23 supplies, and instructional materials.
- 24 2. **Tax Incentives:** The measure introduces an additional deduction from taxable income
25 for companies that hire Senior High School (SHS) graduates from their partner public

26 schools. It also exempts donated goods from customs duties, value-added tax, excise tax,
27 and donor's tax, further incentivizing contributions.

- 28 3. **Enhanced Coordination:** The existing Adopt-a-School Coordinating Council will be
29 expanded to include representatives from the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI),
30 Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Bureau of Internal Revenue (BIR), and
31 a representative from a reputable business group, strengthening coordination between
32 the government and key industry stakeholders.
- 33 4. **Strategic Identification of Needs:** To guide private investments in education, the
34 Department of Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and
35 Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) will periodically
36 assess and communicate the priority needs of public educational institutions across
37 regions.

38 Recognizing the need for continuous reform to improve educational access and quality, the
39 enactment of this bill is earnestly sought.



EDUARDO "BRO. EDDIE" C. VILLANUEVA
Representative, CIBAC Partylist



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AN ACT
FURTHER STRENGTHENING THE INCENTIVES FOR PRIVATE
SECTOR PARTICIPATION IN PUBLIC EDUCATIONAL
INSTITUTIONS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT
NO. 8525, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS THE "ADOPT-A-SCHOOL ACT
OF 1998"

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

1 **SECTION 1.** Section 1 of Republic Act No. 8525 is hereby amended as follows:
2

3 **"Section 1. Title. - This Act shall be known and cited as the ["Adopt-a-School Act**
4 **of 1998".] "ADOPT-A-SCHOOL ACT OF 2024"**
5

6 **SEC. 2.** Section 2 of Republic Act No. 8525 is hereby amended as follows:
7

8 "Section 2. Declaration of policy. - It is the policy of the State to provide quality and
9 relevant education to the Filipino youth and to encourage private initiative to support
10 public education. Towards this end, the State shall institute programs to [~~encourage~~]
11 **INCENTIVIZE THE** private [~~companies and enterprises~~] **SECTOR** to [~~help~~]
12 **ASSIST** in the **DEVELOPMENT**, upgrading, and modernization of **THE**
13 **COUNTRY'S** public [~~schools~~] **EDUCATION SYSTEM** [~~in the country, particularly~~
14 ~~those in poverty-stricken provinces.~~] **AND ESTABLISH PROPER LINKAGES**
15 **BETWEEN EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS AND INDUSTRIES,**
16 **INCLUDING THE TRAINING AND EMPLOYMENT OF SENIOR HIGH**
17 **SCHOOL (SHS) GRADUATES."**
18

19 **SEC. 3.** Section 3 of Republic Act No. 8525 is hereby amended as follows:

"Sec. 3. Adopt-a-School Program. - There is hereby established the "Adopt-a-School Program" which will allow private **INDIVIDUALS OR** entities, **WHETHER LOCAL OR FOREIGN, OF GOOD STANDING** to assist [a] public [school] **EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**, whether **EARLY CHILDHOOD**, elementary, secondary, **TECHNICAL-VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING, ALTERNATIVE LEARNING SYSTEM (ALS)**, or tertiary, preferably located in [~~any of the twenty (20) poorest provinces identified by the Presidential Council for Countryside Development or any other government agency tasked with identifying the poorest provinces]~~ **THE 4TH, 5TH, AND 6TH CLASS PROVINCES, CITIES, AND MUNICIPALITIES AS DETERMINED BY THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE (DOF) AND OTHER LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUs) EXPERIENCING SEVERE SHORTAGES, INSUFFICIENT BUDGET OR HAVING NUMEROUS POOR BUT HIGH PERFORMING LEARNERS** in, but not limited to, the following areas: **TRAINING, DEVELOPMENT AND FURTHER EDUCATION OF SCHOOL HEADS, TEACHERS, INCLUDING DAYCARE AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT WORKERS, TVET TRAINERS, FACULTY AND LEARNERS; ASSESSMENTS IN PURSUIT OF RELEVANT WORK RELATED CERTIFICATIONS AND CREDENTIALS; SCHOLARSHIPS FOR TEACHERS; REAL ESTATE PROPERTY** [~~staff and faculty development for training and further education~~]; construction of **SCHOOL facilities SUCH AS LIBRARIES AND LABORATORIES AND THOSE RELATED TO POWER, WATER, AND SANITATION; [upgrading] UPGRADE AND REPAIR** of existing facilities; provision of books, publications, **SCHOOL SUPPLIES**, and other instructional materials **SUCH AS ELECTRONIC BOOKS (E-BOOKS), COMPUTERS, FURNITURE, EDUCATIONAL FILMS AND AUDIO-VISUAL MATERIALS; TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL LIVELIHOOD (TVL) TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT; HEALTH AND NUTRITION PACKAGES; ASSISTIVE LEARNING DEVICES AND EQUIPMENT FOR LEARNERS WITH SPECIAL NEEDS;** and modernization of instructional technologies.

A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) specifying the details of the adoption shall be entered into between the adopting **INDIVIDUAL OR** entity and the head of the [school] **EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION** concerned: Provided, That such MOA shall be subject to review and approval of the [~~Superintendent of Schools of the province or district concerned~~] **CONCERNED REGIONAL, PROVINCIAL, OR FIELD OFFICE OF THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION**: Provided, further, That the agreement shall last for at least two (2) years with the possibility of extension: Provided, finally, That such period may be shortened only in cases where the adopting **INDIVIDUAL OR** entity is dissolved before the end of such period unless otherwise earlier terminated in accordance with [~~the succeeding section~~] **THIS ACT.**"

SEC. 4. Insert a new Section under Republic Act No. 8525 as follows, and renumber the succeeding sections accordingly:

"SEC. 4. CREATION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ADOPT-A-SCHOOL ONE-STOP SHOP. - THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED), COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED), AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY (TESDA), IN COORDINATION WITH THE DOF, BUREAU OF INTERNAL REVENUE (BIR), THE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS (BOC), AND THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS TECHNOLOGY (DICT, SHALL ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN AN ADOPT-A-SCHOOL ONE-STOP SHOP AND AN ONLINE PORTAL TO ADDRESS QUERIES AND CONCERNS FROM PRIVATE

71 INDIVIDUALS AND ENTITIES INTERESTED IN THE PROGRAM, TO RECEIVE
72 AND PROCESS APPLICATIONS JOINTLY WITH THE BIR AND THE BOC."
73

74 SEC. 5. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 8525 is hereby amended as follows:
75

76 "Section [4] 5. Periodic review. - A review of the adoption shall be undertaken by the [~~local~~
77 ~~school board of the province or city where the school~~] **CONCERNED REGIONAL,**
78 **PROVINCIAL, OR FIELD OFFICE WHERE THE PARTICIPATING SCHOOL** is
79 located. The standards and guidelines for the review shall be formulated by the **ADOPT-A-**
80 **SCHOOL** Coordinating Council created under Sec. [7] **8** hereof. The results of the review
81 shall be taken into consideration in the assessment of the application for tax credits by the
82 adopting **INDIVIDUAL OR** entity. The [~~school board~~] **CONCERNED REGIONAL,**
83 **PROVINCIAL, OR FIELD OFFICE** may, after an appropriate review, recommend to the
84 **ADOPT-A-SCHOOL** Coordinating Council the termination of the adoption. The adopting
85 **INDIVIDUAL OR** entity may appeal the assessment to the **ADOPT-A-SCHOOL**
86 Coordinating Council whose decision shall be final and unappealable."
87

88 SEC. 6. Section 5 and 6 of Republic Act No. 8525 are hereby repealed and replaced with a new
89 Section, as follows:
90

91 "SEC. 6. INCENTIVES FOR ADOPTING INDIVIDUALS OR ENTITIES. –
92 PROVISIONS OF EXISTING LAWS TO THE CONTRARY NOTWITHSTANDING,
93 ADOPTING INDIVIDUALS OR ENTITIES SHALL ENJOY THE FOLLOWING
94 INCENTIVES:
95

96 a) **ADDITIONAL DEDUCTION FOR EXPENSES INCURRED FOR THE**
97 **ADOPTION - EXPENSES INCURRED BY THE ADOPTING INDIVIDUALS**
98 **OR ENTITIES FOR THE "ADOPT-A-SCHOOL PROGRAM" SHALL BE**
99 **ALLOWED AN ADDITIONAL DEDUCTION FROM THE GROSS INCOME**
100 **EQUIVALENT TO FIFTY PERCENT (50%) OF SUCH EXPENSES.**
101

102 **VALUATION OF ASSISTANCE OTHER THAN MONEY SHALL BE BASED**
103 **ON THE ACQUISITION COST OF THE GOODS, SERVICES AND REAL**
104 **PROPERTY. SUCH VALUATION SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION**
105 **THE DEPRECIATED VALUE OF THE GOODS AND REAL PROPERTY, IN**
106 **CASE SAID GOODS AND REAL PROPERTY HAVE ALREADY BEEN USED.**
107

108 b) **ONE-TIME ADDITIONAL DEDUCTION FOR HIRING OF PUBLIC SENIOR**
109 **HIGH SCHOOL (SHS) GRADUATES - ADOPTING INDIVIDUALS OR**
110 **ENTITIES WHO HIRE SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL (SHS) GRADUATES FROM**
111 **THEIR PARTNER PUBLIC INSTITUTION SHALL ENJOY AN ADDITIONAL**
112 **DEDUCTION EQUIVALENT TO 20% OF THE SALARIES, WAGES, AND**
113 **BENEFITS PAID TO THE EMPLOYED SHS GRADUATE: PROVIDED, THAT**
114 **THE SHS GRADUATE IS REGULARLY EMPLOYED FOR AT LEAST ONE**
115 **YEAR.**
116

117 c) **ADDITIONAL INCENTIVES - IN ACCORDANCE WITH EXISTING LAWS**
118 **AND SUBJECT TO THE IMPLEMENTING RULES AND REGULATIONS,**
119 **THE ADOPTING INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY SHALL BE ENTITLED TO**
120 **HAVE ITS NAME EMBLAZONED BENEATH THE NAME OF THE SCHOOL**

**AFTER WORDS INDICATING THAT THE SCHOOL IS UNDER THE
"ADOPT-A-SCHOOL PROGRAM."**

SEC. 7. Insert a new Section under Republic Act No. 8525 as follows, and renumber the succeeding sections accordingly:

**"SEC. 7. EXEMPTION FROM IMPORT DUTIES, TAXES AND OTHER FEES.
- THE DONATED GOODS, REAL PROPERTY, AND SERVICES BY AN ADOPTING
INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY SHALL BE EXEMPT FROM CUSTOMS DUTIES,
VALUE-ADDED TAX, EXCISE TAX, AND DONOR'S TAX: PROVIDED, THAT THE
DONATIONS SHALL NOT BE RESOLD OR TRANSFERRED FOR MATERIAL
CONSIDERATION."**

SEC. 8. Section 7 or Republic Act No. 8525 is hereby amended as follows:

**"Section [7] 8. ADOPT-A-SCHOOL Coordinating Council. - AN ADOPT-A-SCHOOL
Coordinating Council, hereinafter referred to as the Council, is hereby created to coordinate
and monitor the implementation of this Act. The Council shall be composed of the Secretary
of [~~the Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS)~~] **DEPED**, as chairperson; the
Chairman of [~~the Commission on Higher Education (CHED)~~] **CHED** and the Director-General
of [~~the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)~~] **TESDA**, as co-
chairpersons; **THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE AND
INDUSTRY (DTI); THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND
EMPLOYMENT (DOLE); THE COMMISSIONER OF THE BIR** and [~~the chairperson of
the Presidential Council for Countryside Development (PCCD), and~~] a representative, **WHO
SHALL HAVE A TERM OF THREE (3) YEARS AND MAY BE REAPPOINTED FOR
ANOTHER THREE (3) YEARS**, from a [~~national federation of chambers of commerce and
industry~~] **REPUTABLE BUSINESS GROUP** to be appointed by the President of the
Philippines, as members."**

**THE SECRETARIES OF DEPED, DTI, AND DOLE, THE CHAIRMAN OF
CHED, THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TESDA, AND THE COMMISSIONER OF
BIR MAY DESIGNATE THEIR RESPECTIVE ALTERNATES WITH RANKS NOT
LOWER THAN ASSISTANT SECRETARY OR ITS EQUIVALENT. ALL
ALTERNATES SHALL BE AUTHORIZED TO DECIDE FOR OR ON BEHALF OF
THEIR RESPECTIVE PRINCIPALS.**

The Council shall meet once every three (3) months. The chairpersons and members shall not receive compensation but shall be entitled to reimbursements for reasonable expenses related to the Council's activities.

The **DEPED** [~~DECS~~], **CHED**, [~~and~~] **TESDA**, **DTI**, **DOLE** through a mutual agreement, AND IN COORDINATION WITH **DBM**, shall each make provisions for the secretariat of the Council.

**THE COUNCIL SHALL COORDINATE WITH NATIONAL GOVERNMENT
AGENCIES (NGAS) AND EXISTING COUNCILS RELEVANT TO THE
IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF THIS ACT."**

SEC. 9. Insert a new Section under Republic Act No. 8525 as follows, and renumber the succeeding sections accordingly:

172 "SEC. 9. DETERMINATION OF EDUCATION SECTOR NEEDS AND
173 PRIORITIES. - THE DEPED, CHED, AND TESDA, THROUGH THEIR
174 RESPECTIVE REGIONAL, PROVINCIAL AND FIELD OFFICES, SHALL MAKE
175 AN ANNUAL DETERMINATION OF THE NEEDS AND PRIORITIES OF PUBLIC
176 EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS WITHIN THEIR LOCATION, WHICH MAY SERVE
177 AS A GUIDE FOR
178 STRATEGIC INTERVENTIONS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PRIVATE
179 SECTOR.
180

181 **SEC. 10. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** - Within sixty (60) days from the
182 effectivity of this Act, the DepEd, CHED, TESDA, DTI and DOLE in consultation with the
183 DOF, including the BIR, and the BOC, and the Early Childhood Care and Development
184 (ECCD) Council Secretariat, shall formulate the implementing rules and regulations to
185 implement this Act.
186

187 **SEC. 11. Transitory Clause.** - To prevent any delay in the delivery of goods, services,
188 and real property, the provisions of Republic Act No. 8525 shall apply to pending and ongoing
189 transactions and/or donations by adopting individuals or entities.
190

191 **SEC. 12. Repealing Clause.** - All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and regulations or parts
192 thereof inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.
193

194 **SEC. 13. Separability Clause.** - If any provision of this Act is held invalid or
195 unconstitutional, the same shall not affect the validity and effectivity of the other provisions
196 hereof.
197

198 **SEC. 14. Effectivity.** - This Act shall take effect after fifteen (15) days following its
199 publication in the Official Gazette or a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,