

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City
TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session
House Bill No. 2076



Introduced by Representative

BRIAN DANIEL POE LLAMANZARES, PhD, MNSA

**AN ACT INSTITUTIONALIZING A NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FOR
CHILDREN OF PUBLIC TRANSPORT DRIVERS, PROMOTING ACCESS TO
QUALITY EDUCATION AND SOCIAL SUPPORT SERVICES**

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Public transport workers — jeepney drivers, bus drivers, tricycle operators, taxi and ride-hailing drivers, and other public utility vehicle operators — are among the backbone of our nation’s daily life. Despite their vital role in moving people, goods, and services, they often belong to some of the most economically vulnerable sectors, facing unstable incomes, rising fuel costs, and lack of social protection.

Because of these challenges, many children of public transport drivers struggle to complete their education, creating an intergenerational cycle of limited opportunities and economic hardship. The COVID-19 pandemic further worsened this plight, highlighting the urgent need for a stronger safety net for the families of our transport workers.

This bill seeks to institutionalize a National Scholarship Program for Children of Public Transport Workers, promoting equal access to quality education and related social support services. By providing full or partial tuition support, stipends, housing assistance, mental health services, and career coaching, the program aims to ensure that children of public utility drivers

and other transport workers can reach their fullest potential, regardless of their families' financial limitations.

The measure also mandates inter-agency coordination among the Department of Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education (CHED), Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), Department of Transportation (DOTr), and other relevant agencies to guarantee efficient delivery of benefits and guidance services. A centralized registry will help target and monitor beneficiaries effectively.

By empowering the children of our public transport workers through education, we do not only uplift individual families — we strengthen the backbone of our economy and promote inclusive national growth.

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

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Brian Poe", with a stylized, flowing script.

HON. BRIAN DANIEL POE LLAMANZARES, PhD, MNSA
Representative
FPJ Panday Bayanihan Party-List

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

SECTION 1. Title. – This Act shall be known as the “Scholarship for Children of Public Transport Workers Act.”

SEC. 2. Declaration of Policy. – It is the policy of the State to promote equal access to quality education and to uplift marginalized sectors by providing inclusive and targeted support to children of public transport workers. The State shall endeavor to break the intergenerational cycle of poverty by institutionalizing scholarship and support programs for the children of public utility drivers and workers, including those in land, sea, and air transportation.

SEC. 3. Definition of Terms. – For the purposes of this Act:

- (a) Public Transport Drivers refer to duly licensed drivers operating public utility vehicles such as jeepneys, tricycles, buses, taxis, UV Express vans, ride-hailing app-based vehicles, and other government-accredited modes of public transport.

(b) Qualified Beneficiaries are children, biological or legally adopted, of public transport drivers with proof of low-income status, as certified by the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD) or barangay officials.

(c) Scholarship Program refers to full or partial financial assistance granted for primary, secondary, tertiary, or technical-vocational education.

SEC. 4. Scope of Scholarship Benefits. – Eligible beneficiaries shall receive the following:

- (a) Full or partial coverage of tuition and miscellaneous fees in public or accredited private schools;
- (b) Monthly living stipend for food, transportation, and school supplies;
- (c) Access to free mental health services and academic counselling;
- (d) Dormitory housing near State Universities and Colleges (SUCs), where applicable;
- (e) Career guidance, life coaching, and internship facilitation services.

SEC. 5. Education Pathways Covered. – The program shall cover:

- (a) Primary and secondary education in public schools;
- (b) Senior High School, including TESDA-accredited technical-vocational programs;
- (c) Tertiary education in CHED-recognized degree programs;
- (d) Short courses or bridging programs to support entry into higher education or employment.

SEC. 6. Priority for Low-Income Transport Families. – Priority shall be given to students from households with monthly incomes below the poverty threshold, as defined by the Philippine Statistics Authority (PSA), and verified through proper documentation.

SEC. 7. Academic Requirements. – To maintain their scholarship status, scholars must:

- (a) Maintain a general weighted average (GWA) of at least 80% or its equivalent;
- (b) Attend all required guidance and counselling sessions;
- (c) Comply with other conditions set by the implementing agency.

SEC. 8. Implementation and Inter-Agency Coordination. – The Department of Education (DepEd), Commission on Higher Education (CHED), and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA), in partnership with the Department of Transportation (DOTr) and the Land Transportation Franchising and Regulatory Board (LTFRB), shall jointly implement this Act.

The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) and the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) shall assign case workers to each scholar to provide career support and linkages to the private sector for internships and employment.

SEC. 9. Database and Registry. – A centralized national database of eligible transport workers and their dependents shall be created and maintained by DOTr and the Department of Information and Communications Technology (DICT) to ensure efficient selection and monitoring.

SEC. 10. Appropriations. – The initial funding for this program shall be charged against the current budgets of CHED, TESDA, DepEd, and DOTr. Thereafter, the amount necessary for its continued implementation shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SEC. 11. Implementing Rules and Regulations. – Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the concerned agencies shall promulgate the necessary Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) for its effective implementation.

SEC. 12. Separability Clause. – If any provision of this Act is declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other provisions not affected shall remain in full force and effect.

SEC. 13. Repealing Clause. – All laws, executive orders, or regulations inconsistent with this Act are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

SEC. 14. Effectivity. – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its complete publication in the Official Gazette or in at least two (2) newspapers of general circulation.

Approved,


HON. BRIAN DANIEL POE LLAMANZARES, PhD, MNSA
Representative
FPJ Panday Bayanihan Party-List