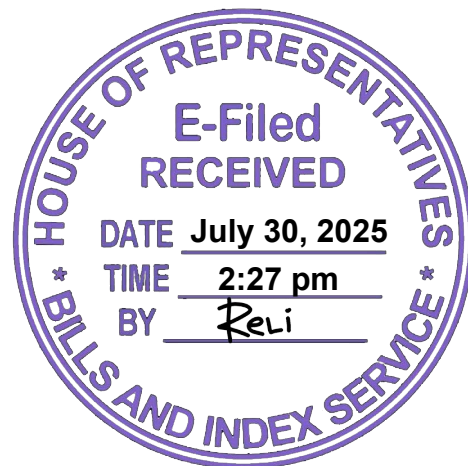


Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. **2657**



Introduced by **HON. BRIAN RAYMUND S. YAMSUAN**

AN ACT
GRANTING AN ANNUAL STIPEND FOR ALL STUDENTS
IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution mandates that “[t]he 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.”¹ The Constitution further provides that the State shall “establish and maintain a system of scholarship grants, student loan programs, subsidies, and other incentives which shall be available to deserving students in both public and private schools, especially to the underprivileged.”²

Quality education is a gateway to a better future. As the proverb says, “give a man a fish and you feed him for a day; teach a man to fish and you feed him for a lifetime.” Education equips our citizens with the skills and knowledge to help them take charge of their own lives. Education opens doors and opportunities for Filipinos to achieve their dreams and build a better country.

For the school year 2025-2026, the Department of Education (DepEd) projects that 27.6 million students will enroll in basic education.³ Meanwhile, in the school year 2023-2024, there were around 5 million enrollees in higher education institutions.⁴

¹ 1987 Constitution, Article XIV, Section 1.

² 1987 Constitution, Article XIV, Section 2.

³ <https://mb.com.ph/2025/06/15/school-year-20252026-deped-projects-276-million-enrollees-in-basic-education#:~:text=Manila%20Bulletin%20%2D%20School%20Year%202025,million%20enrollees%20in%20basic%20education>

⁴ <https://ched.gov.ph/2024-higher-education-facts-and-figures/>

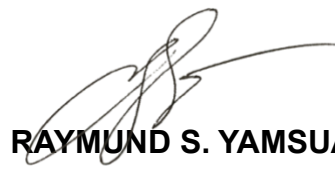
These are millions of students who deserve not only quality education, but the necessary resources and support to enable them to pursue their studies, without carrying the burden of financial worries.

While our public school system provides free tuition, there are costs to attending school that need to be covered, such as for uniforms, food, transportation, books, and school supplies. By instituting the *Bigay Ayuda at Oportunidad sa Nakababata* or *BAON Program*, we inch closer toward making education truly accessible for every Filipino student.

In the 2nd District of Parañaque, around 5,000 students in the elementary, high school, and college levels⁵ have benefitted from the localized implementation of the BAON Program. This program not only helps students, but also their families and loved ones, whose financial burdens are lessened because of this assistance. One of the many beneficiaries of the BAON Program is the child of a solo parent from Barangay San Antonio. The recipient said the program helped ease their everyday struggles. Other student-beneficiaries from Barangay San Antonio said the financial grant will help them cover expenses for transportation and food during their final examinations, and school supplies needed for study programs that require additional materials, such as courses in architecture and engineering.

We are witness to stories of students whose educational journeys were made less stressful by the program, allowing them to focus on their studies instead of worrying about financial considerations. As evidenced by the success of our experience in the 2nd District of Parañaque, this proposed measure aims to provide a Php 5,000 financial assistance for all students and Php 10,000 for Dean's Listers to ensure that they are provided the support they need to complete their education.

In view of the foregoing, the approval of this measure is earnestly sought.



BRIAN RAYMUND S. YAMSUAN
Representative
2nd District of Parañaque

⁵<https://politiko.com.ph/2025/05/27/bigger-baon-coming-yamsuan-vows-to-expand-education-aid-for-poor-students/politiko-lokal/>

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 2657

Introduced by **HON. BRIAN RAYMUND S. YAMSUAN**

AN ACT
GRANTING AN ANNUAL STIPEND FOR ALL STUDENTS IN PUBLIC AND
PRIVATE SCHOOLS

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 “Baon Para sa Estudyante Act.”

SECTION. 2. Declaration of Policy. — The State recognizes the right of all citizens to quality and accessible education. The State seeks to ease the burden of Filipino students by providing the necessary financial support for education-related costs.

SECTION 3. Annual Stipend for All Students. – Every student enrolled in elementary, junior high school, senior high school, and college, in all public and private schools in the Philippines, including learners under the Alternative Learning System (ALS), shall be entitled to the following stipend at the start of the school year: (a) five thousand pesos (PhP5,000) for regular students; and (b) ten thousand pesos (PhP10,000) for dean’s listers.

SECTION 4. Ease of Registration. – The Department of Education (DepEd) and Commission on Higher Education (CHED) shall ensure that the requirements and registration procedure for the availment of the stipend are streamlined, accessible, and not unduly burdensome. The requirements and registration shall be designed to facilitate, and not hinder, the implementation of this Act.

SECTION 5. Implementing Agencies. — The DepEd shall be in charge of implementing the provisions of this Act for students in elementary, junior high school, and senior high school. The CHED shall be in charge of implementing the provisions of this Act for students at the college level.

The DepEd and the CHED shall study and consider the adoption of a tiered system based on income brackets to ensure that students with the most urgent financial need are prioritized.

The DepEd and the CHED, in consultation with relevant stakeholders, shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act. The non-issuance of the IRR shall not hinder the implementation of this Act.

SECTION 6. Appropriations. — The amount necessary for the implementation of this Act shall be charged against the appropriations of the DepEd and CHED of the year following its enactment into law. Thereafter, sums necessary for the continued implementation of this Act shall be included in the annual General Appropriations Act.

SECTION 7. Repealing Clause. — All laws, decrees, executive orders, rules and regulations inconsistent with any provision of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, superseded, or amended accordingly.

SECTION 8. Separability Clause. — If any provision of this Act or the application of such provision to any person or circumstance is held invalid for any reason, the remainder of this Act or the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

SECTION 9. Effectivity. — This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in at least two (2) national newspapers of general circulation, whichever comes earlier.

Approved,