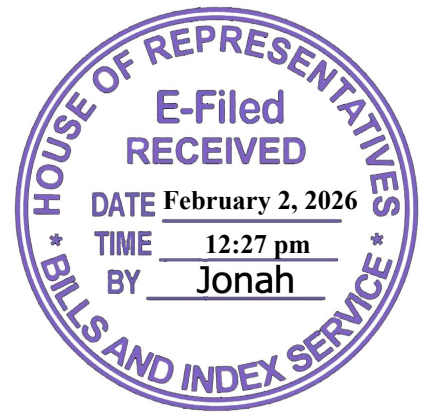




Republic of the Philippines
House of Representatives
Quezon City, Metro Manila

Twentieth Congress
First Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 7526



Introduced by Representative Lordan G. Suan

AN ACT
REGULATING THE COLLECTION OF CONTRIBUTIONS
FROM STUDENTS, TEACHERS AND PARENTS OF PUBLIC AND
PRIVATE ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
SCHOOLS, REPEALING FOR THIS PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT 5546,
ENTITLED, "AN ACT TO FURTHER AMEND REPUBLIC ACT
NUMBERED FOUR THOUSAND TWO HUNDRED SIX ENTITLED
'AN ACT PROHIBITING THE COLLECTION OF CONTRIBUTIONS
FROM SCHOOL CHILDREN OF PUBLIC PRIMARY,
INTERMEDIATE AND HIGH SCHOOLS' AND REPUBLIC ACT 4206,
AS AMENDED"

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The collection of monetary or material contributions from students and parents has been a recurring issue in the education sector. Despite the Department of Education's No Collection Policy, parent complaints continue to fill the airwaves and flood social media channels.

We passed Republic Act 4206 in 1965, which prohibited the collection of contributions from children enrolled in public primary and intermediate schools. The law specifically prohibited "the collection of contributions for the Red Cross, Anti-Tuberculosis, Parent-Teacher Associations, School Athletic Meets, Medical and Dental Services, or for any other project or purpose, whether voluntary or otherwise," with the exception of the Red Cross membership drive. When Republic Act 5546 was passed in 1969, it forbade the selling of tickets and the collection of contributions, voluntary or otherwise, from students and teachers of public and private schools, colleges, and universities. Instead of specifically identifying the prohibited collection drives, it used the term "contributions in any form whatsoever." It also included

membership in the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts as an added exemption from the coverage of the law.

Looking at the different memoranda and orders issued by DepEd, we found out that it allows voluntary school contributions (VSCs) for the following:

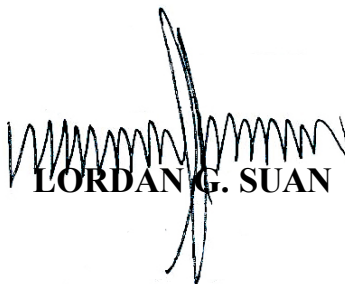
Membership Fee/Contribution	Amount/Learner	Reference
Boy Scouts of the Philippines	P50.00	DM513,S.2009
Girl Scouts of the Philippines	P50.00	DM235,S.2009
Phil. National Red Cross	P50.00	DM330,S.2009
Anti-TB Fund Drive	P5.00	DM31,S.2001
Parents-Teachers Association	A reasonable amount to be determined by PTA's GA	DO54,S.2009
School Publication	P60.00 for elementary P90.00 for high school	DO19,S.2008
Membership in Student Org.	Based on existing school policies	DO48,S.2009

- Based on DepEd Order No. 013, S. 2022 & DepEd Memo No. 143, S. 2016 some of these voluntary contributions may be in violation of the provisions of RA 5546, which expressly prohibits contributions" voluntary or otherwise, for any projector purpose" other than those stated.

Another point of contention is the PTA's voluntary membership dues and fund-raising collection, as outlined in Article VII, Section 26 of the Omnibus Guidelines on the Regulation of Parent-Teacher Association Operations (DepEd Order No. 13, S. 2022). PTAs, according to DepEd, are not subject to the prohibition because they are organizations of parents and RA 5546 solely addresses the prohibition of collecting from students and teachers.

This measure intends to repeal RA 4206, as amended, and RA 5546, in order to create a clear regulation on the collection of fees and contributions in public and private elementary and secondary schools, as well as provide a legislation that is relevant and responsive to the needs of the time.

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


LORDAN G. SUAN



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'AN ACT PROHIBITING THE COLLECTION OF CONTRIBUTIONS
FROM SCHOOL CHILDREN OF PUBLIC PRIMARY,
INTERMEDIATE AND HIGH SCHOOLS' AND REPUBLIC ACT 4206,
AS AMENDED"

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

1 **SECTION 1. Short Title.** – This Act shall be known as the “*School*
2 *Collection Regulation Act*”.

3
4 **SEC. 2. Definition of Terms.** – For this Act, the following terms are
5 defined as follows:

6 a.) Compulsory Contribution refers to a mandatory or forced payment
7 or service for the achievement of a purpose, which usually entails a
8 penalty or repercussion for non-compliance.

9
10 b.) Compulsory Solicitation refers to the obligatory act of asking
11 something from someone.

12

c.) Fund-raising Activity refers to a concerted endeavor to collect monetary contributions for a project, initiative, or cause.

d.) Miscellaneous Fee refers to a payment required for the incidental expenses incurred while availing the services provided by the school.

e.) Tuition Fee refers to the payment made to cover academic and teaching expenses.

f.) Voluntary Contribution refers to money, material, or service that is freely made or rendered without pressure or coercion.

g.) PTA refers to the Parent-Teacher Association, a school-based organization of parents under the guidance of the school head or principal whose main purpose is to actively engage and cooperate in the implementation of school programs and projects for the benefit of the school and the students.

h.) School Publication refers to a medium of communication produced and published by the students, like a newspaper, journal, yearbook, or magazine.

i.) Student Organization refers to an association or group of students organized based on level, interests, advocacy, goal, or persuasion.

SEC. 3. *Compulsory Contribution.* – All forms of compulsory contributions for whatever reason or purpose from students, teachers, and parents of public and private elementary and secondary schools by any person or entity are hereby prohibited.

SEC. 4. *Compulsory Solicitation or Fund-raising Activities.* – All forms of compulsory solicitation or fund-raising activities for whatever project or purpose imposed on students, teachers, and parents of public and private elementary and secondary schools by any person or entity are hereby prohibited.

SEC. 5. *Tuition and Other Fees.* – Tuition, laboratory, and miscellaneous fees may be collected from students as a requirement for enrollment in private elementary and secondary schools to ensure the school's viability. Provided, however, that such expenses are disclosed in the assessment form prior to enrollment. Furthermore, failure to pay the outstanding amount of such fees shall not deny the student the right to take an exam, participate in school activities, or be promoted to the next grade or level.

1
2 Tuition, laboratory, and miscellaneous fees shall not be permitted in public
3 elementary and secondary schools due to governmental policy of free public
4 education.

5
6 **SEC. 6. *Voluntary Contribution.*** – Voluntary contributions for school
7 activities or School improvements may be solicited from or offered by the
8 students or parents of private elementary and secondary schools.

9
10 **SEC. 7. *Appropriations.*** – The amount necessary for implementing this
11 Act shall be included in the Annual General Appropriations Act.

12
13 **SEC. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.*** – Within ninety (90) days
14 from the effectivity of this Act, the SC shall promulgate the necessary rules and
15 guidelines for the effective implementation of this Act.

16
17 **SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.*** – All laws, presidential decrees, executive
18 orders, memoranda, circulars, and other issuances, or parts thereof, which are
19 inconsistent with the Act, are hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

20
21 **SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.*** – All laws, decrees, orders, rules, and
22 regulations, or parts thereof, inconsistent with or contrary to the provisions of
23 this Act are repealed, amended, or modified accordingly.

24
25 **SEC. 11. *Effectivity.*** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days from
26 the date of its publication in the Official Gazette or two (2) newspapers of
27 general circulation.

Approved,