



Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session



House Bill No. 10216

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

EXPLANATORY NOTE

Education is a shared responsibility of the government, the private sector, civil society, and the broader community. While the Constitution primarily mandates the State to establish and maintain a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education, it likewise recognizes the indispensable role of private institutions and encourages their participation in complementing government efforts to improve educational access, quality, and relevance. Strong partnerships between public educational institutions and private stakeholders remain essential in preparing Filipino learners to meet the demands of an increasingly knowledge-driven and globally competitive economy.

Republic Act No. 8525, otherwise known as the Adopt-a-School Act of 1998, has encouraged private sector support for public schools through donations and educational assistance. However, after more than two decades of implementation, the scope of the law has become inadequate to address the evolving needs of the Philippine education sector. Existing incentives no longer sufficiently encourage sustained private sector participation, while current administrative processes, limited coverage, and outdated mechanisms constrain the full potential of public-private collaboration across all levels of education.

This measure seeks to modernize and strengthen the Adopt-a-School Program by expanding its coverage to include early childhood education, technical-vocational education and training, alternative learning systems, and public higher education institutions. It likewise broadens the forms of assistance that may be provided, including teacher development, scholarships, industry certifications, digital learning resources, laboratory facilities, health and nutrition interventions, assistive technologies for learners with disabilities, and other educational support necessary to improve learning outcomes and institutional capacity. At the same time, the bill establishes an Adopt-a-School One-Stop Shop and an integrated online portal to streamline applications, coordination, and the processing of incentives for participating private individuals and entities.

The proposed measure further enhances incentives by increasing allowable tax deductions for educational assistance, granting additional incentives for enterprises that employ graduates of partner public senior high schools, and exempting qualified donations from customs duties, value-added tax, excise tax, and donor's tax, subject to appropriate safeguards. It also strengthens institutional governance through an expanded Adopt-a-School Coordinating Council and requires education agencies to regularly identify priority needs, ensuring that private sector contributions are directed toward communities and institutions where they will produce the greatest public benefit.

By fostering stronger collaboration between educational institutions and industry, the measure promotes workforce readiness, expands employment opportunities for graduates, improves educational infrastructure, enhances teacher competency, and encourages innovation throughout the public education system. More importantly, it enables the private sector to become a more active partner in nation-building by investing directly in human capital development, thereby contributing to inclusive economic growth and long-term national competitiveness.

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


EDUARDO "BRO. EDDIE" C. VILLANUEVA



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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 to read as
2 follows:

3
4 "SECTION 1. Title. - This Act shall be known and cited as the [~~Adopt-a-School Act of 1998~~] **"ADOPT-A-SCHOOL ACT OF 2026"**."

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

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

21
22 **SEC. 3.** Section 3 of Republic Act No. 8525 is hereby amended to read as
23 follows:
24

1 "SEC. 3. Adopt-a-School Program. - There is hereby established the
2 "Adopt-a-School Program" which will allow private **INDIVIDUALS OR**
3 entities **OF GOOD STANDING, WHETHER LOCAL OR FOREIGN**, to
4 assist [a] public [school] **EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS**, whether
5 **EARLY CHILDHOOD**, elementary, secondary, **TECHNICAL-**
6 **VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING, ALTERNATIVE**
7 **LEARNING SYSTEM (ALS)**, or tertiary, preferably located in [any of the
8 ~~twenty (20) poorest provinces identified by the Presidential Council for~~
9 ~~Countryside Development or any other government agency tasked with~~
10 ~~identifying the poorest provinces]~~ **THE 4TH, 5TH, AND 6TH CLASS**
11 **PROVINCES, CITIES, AND MUNICIPALITIES, AS DETERMINED BY**
12 **THE DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE (DOF), AND OTHER LOCAL**
13 **GOVERNMENT UNITS (LGUs) EXPERIENCING SEVERE**
14 **SHORTAGES, INSUFFICIENT BUDGET, OR HAVING NUMEROUS**
15 **POOR BUT HIGH PERFORMING LEARNERS** in, but not limited to, the
16 following areas: **TRAINING, DEVELOPMENT, AND FURTHER**
17 **EDUCATION OF SCHOOL HEADS, TEACHERS, INCLUDING**
18 **DAYCARE AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT WORKERS, TECHNICAL**
19 **AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (TVET) TRAINERS,**
20 **FACULTY, AND LEARNERS; ASSESSMENTS IN PURSUIT OF**
21 **RELEVANT WORK-RELATED CERTIFICATIONS AND**
22 **CREDENTIALS; SCHOLARSHIPS FOR TEACHERS; DONATION OF**
23 **REAL ESTATE PROPERTY** [~~staff and faculty development for training~~
24 ~~and further education~~]; construction of **SCHOOL** facilities **SUCH AS**
25 **LIBRARIES AND LABORATORIES AND THOSE RELATED TO**
26 **POWER, WATER, AND SANITATION; [upgrading] UPGRADE AND**
27 **REPAIR** of existing facilities; provision of books **OR ELECTRONIC**
28 **BOOKS (E-BOOKS), publications, SCHOOL SUPPLIES, and other**
29 **instructional materials THAT MAY BE DEEMED APPROPRIATE FOR**
30 **THE LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT OF STUDENTS, SUCH AS**
31 **COMPUTERS, FURNITURE, EDUCATIONAL FILMS AND AUDIO-**
32 **VISUAL MATERIALS, TECHNICAL VOCATIONAL LIVELIHOOD (TVL)**
33 **TOOLS AND EQUIPMENT, HEALTH AND NUTRITION PACKAGES,**
34 **ASSISTIVE LEARNING DEVICES AND EQUIPMENT FOR LEARNERS**
35 **WITH SPECIAL NEEDS; and modernization of instructional technologies.**
36

37 A Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) specifying the details of the
38 adoption shall be entered into between the adopting **INDIVIDUAL OR**
39 entity and the head of the [school] **EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION**
40 concerned: Provided, That such MOA shall be subject to review and
41 approval of the [~~Superintendent of Schools of the province or district~~
42 ~~concerned~~] **CONCERNED REGIONAL, PROVINCIAL, OR FIELD**
43 **OFFICE OF THE EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTION:** Provided, further, That
44 the agreement shall last for at least two (2) years with the possibility of
45 extension: Provided, finally, That such period may be shortened only in
46 cases where the adopting **INDIVIDUAL OR** entity is dissolved before the
47 end of such period unless otherwise earlier terminated in accordance with
48 [the succeeding section] **THIS ACT."**
49

50 **SEC. 4.** A new Section 3-A is hereby inserted to read as follows:

1 "SEC. 3-A. CREATION AND ESTABLISHMENT OF AN ADOPT-A-
2 SCHOOL ONE-STOP SHOP. - THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
3 (DEPED), COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED), AND
4 TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
5 (TESDA), IN COORDINATION WITH THE DOF, BUREAU OF
6 INTERNAL REVENUE (BIR), THE BUREAU OF CUSTOMS (BOC), AND
7 THE DEPARTMENT OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATIONS
8 TECHNOLOGY (DICT), SHALL ESTABLISH AND MAINTAIN AN
9 ADOPT-A-SCHOOL ONE- STOP SHOP AND AN ONLINE PORTAL TO
10 ADDRESS QUERIES AND CONCERNS FROM PRIVATE INDIVIDUALS
11 AND ENTITIES INTERESTED IN THE PROGRAM, TO RECEIVE AND
12 PROCESS APPLICATIONS JOINTLY WITH THE BIR AND THE BOC."
13

14 **SEC. 5.** Section 4 of Republic Act No. 8525 is hereby amended to read as
15 follows:
16

17 "SEC. 4. Periodic Review. - A review of the adoption shall be undertaken
18 by the ~~[local school board of the province or city where the school]~~
19 **CONCERNED REGIONAL, PROVINCIAL, OR FIELD OFFICE WHERE**
20 **THE PARTICIPATING SCHOOL** is located. The standards and guidelines
21 for the review shall be formulated by the **ADOPT-A-SCHOOL**
22 Coordinating Council created under Sec. 7 hereof. The results of the
23 review shall be taken into consideration in the assessment of the
24 application for tax credits by the adopting **INDIVIDUAL OR** entity. The
25 ~~[school board]~~ **CONCERNED REGIONAL, PROVINCIAL, OR FIELD**
26 **OFFICE** may, after an appropriate review, recommend to the **ADOPT-A-**
27 **SCHOOL** Coordinating Council the termination of the adoption. The
28 adopting **INDIVIDUAL OR** entity may appeal the assessment to the
29 **ADOPT-A-SCHOOL** Coordinating Council whose decision shall be final
30 and unappealable."
31

32 **SEC. 6.** Section 5 of Republic Act No. 8525 is hereby repealed and replaced with
33 the following:
34

35 "SEC. 5. INCENTIVES FOR ADOPTING INDIVIDUALS OR ENTITIES. -
36 PROVISIONS OF EXISTING LAWS TO THE
37 CONTRARY NOTWITHSTANDING, ADOPTING INDIVIDUALS OR
38 ENTITIES SHALL AVAIL OF THE FOLLOWING INCENTIVES:
39

40 (A) ADDITIONAL DEDUCTION FOR EXPENSES INCURRED FOR
41 THE ADOPTION - EXPENSES INCURRED BY THE
42 ADOPTING INDIVIDUALS OR ENTITIES FOR THE "ADOPT-
43 A-SCHOOL PROGRAM" SHALL BE ALLOWED AN
44 ADDITIONAL DEDUCTION FROM THE GROSS INCOME
45 EQUIVALENT TO FIFTY PERCENT (50%) OF SUCH
46 EXPENSES.
47

48 VALUATION OF ASSISTANCE OTHER THAN MONEY SHALL
49 BE BASED ON THE ACQUISITION COST OF THE GOODS,
50 SERVICES AND REAL PROPERTY. SUCH VALUATION

1 SHALL TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION THE DEPRECIATED
2 VALUE OF THE GOODS AND REAL PROPERTY, IN CASE
3 SAID GOODS AND REAL PROPERTY HAVE ALREADY
4 BEEN USED.

5
6 (B) ONE-TIME ADDITIONAL DEDUCTION FOR HIRING OF
7 PUBLIC SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL (SHS) GRADUATES -
8 ADOPTING INDIVIDUALS OR ENTITIES WHO HIRE SENIOR
9 HIGH SCHOOL (SHS) GRADUATES FROM THEIR PARTNER
10 PUBLIC INSTITUTION SHALL ENJOY AN ADDITIONAL
11 DEDUCTION EQUIVALENT TO 20% OF THE SALARIES,
12 WAGES, AND BENEFITS PAID TO THE EMPLOYED SHS
13 GRADUATE: PROVIDED, THAT THE SHS GRADUATE IS
14 REGULARLY EMPLOYED FOR AT LEAST ONE YEAR.

15
16 (C) ADDITIONAL INCENTIVES - IN ACCORDANCE WITH
17 EXISTING LAWS AND SUBJECT TO THE IMPLEMENTING
18 RULES AND REGULATIONS, THE ADOPTING INDIVIDUAL
19 OR ENTITY SHALL BE ENTITLED TO HAVE ITS NAME
20 EMBLAZONED BENEATH THE NAME OF THE SCHOOL
21 AFTER WORDS INDICATING THAT THE SCHOOL IS UNDER
22 THE "ADOPT-A-SCHOOL PROGRAM."

23
24 **SEC. 7.** Section 6 of Republic Act No. 8525 is hereby repealed and replaced with
25 the following:

26
27 "SEC. 6. EXEMPTION FROM IMPORT DUTIES, TAXES AND OTHER
28 FEES. - THE DONATED GOODS, REAL PROPERTY, AND SERVICES
29 BY AN ADOPTING INDIVIDUAL OR ENTITY SHALL BE EXEMPT
30 FROM CUSTOMS DUTIES, VALUE-ADDED TAX, EXCISE TAX, AND
31 DONOR'S TAX: PROVIDED, THAT THE DONATIONS SHALL NOT
32 BE RESOLD OR TRANSFERRED FOR MATERIAL
33 CONSIDERATION."

34
35 **SEC. 8.** Section 7 of Republic Act No. 8525 is hereby amended to read as
36 follows:

37
38 "SEC. 7. **ADOPT-A-SCHOOL** Coordinating Council. - **AN ADOPT-A-**
39 **SCHOOL** Coordinating Council, hereinafter referred to as the Council, is
40 hereby created to coordinate and monitor the implementation of this Act.
41 The Council shall be composed of the Secretary of the [~~Department of~~
42 ~~Education, Culture and Sports (DECS)~~] **DEPED SECRETARY**, as
43 chairperson; the ChairPERSON[man] of [~~the Commission on Higher~~
44 ~~Education (CHED)~~] **CHED** and the Director-General of [~~the Technical~~
45 ~~Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)~~] **TESDA** as co-
46 chairpersons; **THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF TRADE**
47 **AND INDUSTRY (DTI)**, **THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF**
48 **LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT (DOLE)**, **THE COMMISSIONER OF THE**
49 **BIR**, and [~~the chairperson of the Presidential Council for Countryside~~
50 ~~Development (PCGD), and]~~ a representative from a [~~national federation of~~

1 ~~chambers of commerce and industry]~~ **REPUTABLE BUSINESS GROUP,**
2 to be appointed by the President of the Philippines **WITH A TERM OF**
3 **THREE (3) YEARS AND MAY BE REAPPOINTED FOR ANOTHER**
4 **THREE (3) YEARS,** as members.

5
6 **THE SECRETARIES OF DEPED, DTI, AND DOLE, THE**
7 **CHAIRMAN OF CHED, THE DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF TESDA, AND**
8 **THE COMMISSIONER OF BIR MAY DESIGNATE THEIR RESPECTIVE**
9 **ALTERNATES WITH RANKS NOT LOWER THAN ASSISTANT**
10 **SECRETARY OR ITS EQUIVALENT. ALL ALTERNATES SHALL BE**
11 **AUTHORIZED TO DECIDE FOR OR ON BEHALF OF THEIR**
12 **RESPECTIVE PRINCIPALS.**

13
14 The Council shall meet once every three (3) months. The
15 chairpersons and members shall not receive compensation but shall be
16 entitled to reimbursements for reasonable expenses related to the
17 Council's activities.

18
19 The **DEPED** [~~DEGS~~], CHED, [~~and~~] TESDA, DTI, DOLE, AND BIR,
20 **IN COORDINATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF BUDGET AND**
21 **MANAGEMENT,** through a mutual agreement, shall each make
22 provisions for the secretariat of the Council.

23
24 **THE COUNCIL SHALL COORDINATE WITH NATIONAL**
25 **GOVERNMENT AGENCIES (NGAS) AND EXISTING COUNCILS**
26 **RELEVANT TO THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PROVISIONS OF**
27 **THIS ACT."**

28
29
30 **SEC. 9.** A new Section 7-A is hereby inserted to read as follows:

31
32 **"SEC. 7-A. DETERMINATION OF EDUCATION SECTOR NEEDS AND**
33 **PRIORITIES. - THE DEPED, CHED, AND TESDA, THROUGH THEIR**
34 **RESPECTIVE REGIONAL, PROVINCIAL AND FIELD OFFICES,**
35 **SHALL MAKE AN ANNUAL DETERMINATION OF THE NEEDS AND**
36 **PRIORITIES OF PUBLIC EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS WITHIN THEIR**
37 **LOCATION, WHICH MAY SERVE AS A GUIDE FOR STRATEGIC**
38 **INTERVENTIONS IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR."**

39
40 **SEC. 10. Implementing Rules and Regulations.** - The rules and regulations
41 necessary for the effective and efficient enforcement of the provisions of this Act shall
42 be formulated by the DepEd, jointly with CHED, TESDA, DTI and DOLE, in
43 consultation with relevant government agencies, LUs, the private sector, and other
44 stakeholders, and shall be implemented within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of
45 this Act.

46
47 Unjustified or willful failure or refusal of the concerned government agencies to
48 promulgate the implementing rules and regulations (IRR) within the specified period
49 shall subject the heads of these government agencies to administrative penalties
50 under applicable civil service laws.

1 Should the IRR contain provisions that are contrary to this Act, the heads of the
2 government agencies responsible for such provision, when done in bad faith or with
3 gross negligence, shall be held administratively liable.
4

5 **SEC. 11. Transitory Clause.** - To prevent any delay in the delivery of goods,
6 services, and real property, the provisions of Republic Act No. 8525 shall apply to
7 pending and ongoing transactions and/or donations by adopting individuals or entities.
8

9 **SEC. 12. Separability Clause.** – If any portion or provision of this Act is declared
10 unconstitutional, the remainder hereof or any provisions not affected thereby shall
11 remain in force and effect.
12

13 **SEC. 13. Repealing Clause.** – Any law, presidential decree or issuance,
14 executive order, letter of instruction, rule, or regulation inconsistent with the provisions
15 of this Act is hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

16 **SEC. 14. Effectivity.** – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
17 complete publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.
18

19 *Approved,*