

Republic of the Philippines
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Quezon City, Metro Manila

TWENTIETH CONGRESS
Second Regular Session

HOUSE BILL NO. 11050



Introduced by **ANG PROBINSYANO**
Party-List Representative Alfred Delos Santos

EXPLANATORY NOTE

The 1987 Constitution provides that the State shall give priority to education and science and technology to foster patriotism and nationalism, accelerate social progress, and promote total human liberation and development.¹ The Constitution also states that science and technology are essential for national development and progress.² Furthermore, the Constitution also 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.³

The country is visited by an average of twenty (20) typhoons annually. Typhoons naturally have destructive capabilities as a result of the strong winds they generate, the intense rainfall they bring, and the major floodings that they can produce. The effects range from structural damages both to man-made and natural structures in the surroundings as well as economic impacts on human life and livelihood.

Especially now, as the globe grapples with the undeniable effects of climate change, the poly-crisis it brings, and its awe-inspiring negative impact on ways-of-life, livelihoods, safety, and societal peace overall, the country must increase its capacity to mitigate such negative effects by training professionals in the meteorological sciences.

In order to mitigate the consequences brought by typhoons, it is important that government will continue to strengthen its weather forecasting and

¹ 1987 CONST., Art. II, Sec. 17.

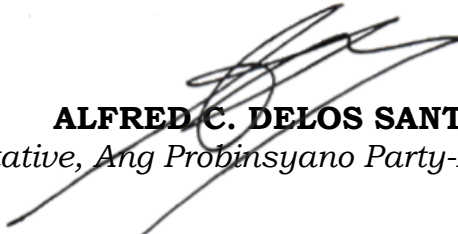
² 1987 CONST., Art. XIV, Sec. 10.

³ 1987 CONST., Art. XIV, Sec. 2 (3).

monitoring efforts. To this end, it is imperative that the government ensure a capable and competent human resource trained in the field of meteorology and its allied sciences.

In light of the foregoing, this bill proposes establishing a National Meteorology Scholarship Program to encourage the youth to pursue and gain expertise in the field of Meteorology. These deserving students who will benefit from the proposed scholarship program will be great assets to the country in the government's efforts in providing information to the public and organizations during typhoons, protecting life and property during weather disturbances, reducing weather-related economic losses, and promoting national safety and prosperity.

Based on the foregoing, the approval of this bill is earnestly sought.



ALFRED C. DELOS SANTOS
Representative, Ang Probinsyano Party-List

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**AN ACT ESTABLISHING A NATIONAL METEOROLOGY SCHOLARSHIP
PROGRAM AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES**

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 “National Meteorology Scholarship Act of 2026”

SECTION 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared the policy of the State to utilize scientific and technical knowledge and information as an effective instrument to ensure national safety, security, and development through various applications of meteorology and its allied sciences. It is also hereby declared a policy of the State to maintain a competent and capable human resource tasked to provide atmospheric, geophysical, astronomical, and other weather and climate-related services and information to the public.

SECTION 3. *Definition of Terms.* – For purposes of this Act, the following terms shall mean:

- (a) Meteorology – the branch of science that studies the atmosphere and its phenomena, including the weather and climate.

SECTION 4. *National Meteorology Scholarship Program.* – A National Meteorology Scholarship Program is hereby established to provide educational assistance to qualified Filipino citizens and to promote the study and encourage the pursuit of careers in Meteorology and its allied sciences.

SECTION 5. *Coverage.* – The National Meteorology Scholarship Program established under this Act shall be made available to deserving Filipino students who want to pursue a degree in Meteorology in state universities and colleges

(SUC) or private higher education institutions (PHEIs) in the country. The Program does not negate, but rather, can run concurrently with other such scholarship programs.

SECTION 6. *Qualifications.* – An applicant to the National Meteorology Scholarship Program must possess the following minimum requirements:

- (a) Must be a Filipino citizen residing in the Philippines;
- (b) Must have passed the entrance examinations and other related requirements for admission of the university where the student intends to attend.

SECTION 7. *Scholarship Benefits.* – The scholarship program shall cover the following:

- (a) Free tuition and other school fees;
- (b) Allowance for prescribed books, supplies, and equipment;
- (c) Monthly basic and meal allowance which shall not be less than twenty thousand pesos (Php 20,000.00) per month during enrolled semesters, subject to periodic review of the DOST;
- (d) Clothing or uniform allowance;
- (e) Allowance for dormitory or boarding house accommodation, if necessary;
- (f) Transportation allowance;
- (g) Training fees, if necessary;
- (h) Professional licensure examination fees, if applicable in the future;
- (i) Other education-related expenses.

SECTION 8. *Conditions for the Grant of Scholarship and Return Service Obligation.* – Deserving students accepted to the National Meteorology Scholarship Program shall be subject to the following conditions:

- (a) Must sign an agreement stating the terms and conditions of the scholarship;
- (b) Must carry the full load of subjects prescribed per semester by the SUC or PHEI, and shall, under no circumstance, drop a course that will result in underloading;
- (c) Must finish the entire program in the prescribed time frame in the SUC or PHEI where the scholar is enrolled, subject to the retention policies of the SUC or PHEI;
- (d) Upon graduation, the scholar must render service in the country for a period equivalent to the number of years the scholar enjoyed the benefits of the scholarship. The scholar shall work in any of the following, in decreasing priority:
 - a. Philippine Atmospheric Geophysical and Astronomical Services Administration (PAGASA);

- b. Any office or project under the DOST;
- c. The Philippine Space Agency (PhilSA);
- d. In the absence of the former, upon certification of the Secretary of Science and Technology and/or the head of the Human Resources Management Office of DOST that no vacant positions are available within six (6) months from the graduation of the scholar, in any office or project under any branch, agency or instrumentality of the government or in the private sector in the Philippines;
- (e) The scholar may be allowed, for valid reasons preventing the enrollment, to defer availing of the scholarship and file a leave of absence for a period not exceeding one (1) school year, subject to the guidelines and policies of the concerned SUC and PHEI;
- (f) Must take the professional licensure examination, if becomes applicable in the future, within a maximum period of 1 year after graduation;

SECTION 9. *Disqualifications.* – The scholarship shall be terminated in case of the following circumstances:

- (a) If the scholar accepts another scholarship from other government or private agencies or entities while enjoying the benefits under this Act;
- (b) If the scholar fails in forty percent (40%) of the subjects or fails to meet the academic requirements of the SUCs or PHEIs or to complete the course within the prescribed period without valid cause as may be determined by the SUC or PHEI, or the DOST such as due to absence without notice, reasons of willful neglect or other causes within the control of the scholar;
- (c) If the scholar commits behavioral misconduct in a manner that would bring significant damage to the SUC or PHEI, government institution concern, persons, and the community.

SECTION 10. *Post Scholarship Incentives.* – In order to encourage graduates of the scholarship program under this Act to serve in fulfillment of their service obligation and entice them to continue to stay and serve in the country even beyond their service obligation, they shall be entitled to the following incentives:

- (a) Priority for job placement in the Government or in the private sector in positions appropriate to their area of education or training;
- (b) Grants-in-aid and access to government research facilities in the conduct of research and development projects and other services and technology activities;
- (c) Access to credit with liberal terms from government banks and financial institutions;

- (d) Payment of hardship and/or hazard allowance to those who are engaged in research and other meteorology-related activities that pose danger and difficulties to their well-being; and
- (e) Travel and accident insurance coverage.

SECTION 11. *Implementing Body.* – The National Meteorology Scholarship Program shall be directly implemented by the DOST through the Science Education Institute.

SECTION 12. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Department of Science and Technology in coordination with relevant government agencies shall promulgate the implementing rules and regulations of this Act within sixty (60) days from its effectivity.

SECTION 13. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act, or part hereof, is held invalid or unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or provision not otherwise affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

SECTION 14. *Repealing Clause.* – All provisions of laws, presidential decrees, letters of instruction, and other presidential issuances that are incompatible or inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby deemed amended or repealed.

SECTION 15. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the Official Gazette or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,