## **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

## H. No. 7584

BY REPRESENTATIVES ROMULO, MATIBAG, NOEL, LACSON-NOEL, RILLO, DIONISIO, VILLAR, ESCUDERO, PLEYTO, CO-PILAR, YU (J.V.), CHAN, BORDADO, FRESNEDI, MARIANO-HERNANDEZ, EMANO, BASCUG, TALLADO, YAP (C.), GARCIA (D.), RAMA, ZAMORA (M.C.), NISAY, MANIQUIZ, ROQUE, SAULOG, SALO, TARRIELA, PADIERNOS, GULLAS, COLLANTES, AQUINO, PLAZA, DEL MAR, TAN (K.M.), RODRIGUEZ (E.), CASTRO (F.), TAMBUNTING AND DALIPE, PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 441

## AN ACT

## ALLOWING ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY LEARNERS WITH UNPAID TUITION AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES TO TAKE THE PERIODIC AND FINAL EXAMINATIONS ON GOOD CAUSE AND JUSTIFIABLE GROUNDS

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

**SECTION 1.** This Act shall be known as the "No Permit, No Exam Prohibition Act".

**SEC. 2.** It is the policy of the State to protect and promote the right of all citizens to quality education and to take appropriate steps to make education accessible to all.

To this end, the State shall establish, maintain, and support a complete, adequate, and integrated system of education relevant to the needs of the people and society. It shall also take into account the welfare of both the learners and the schools by exercising just and reasonable supervision of the latter and ensuring that educational opportunities are made available to learners regardless of their economic status.

**SEC. 3.** This Act shall cover all private basic education institutions.

**SEC. 4.** Parents or guardians of elementary and secondary learners enrolled in private basic education institutions shall have the responsibility of guiding the learners to meet the academic standards and fulfilling the institutional requirements of the private basic education institutions, including the prompt payment of financial obligations as defined and determined by the private basic education institutions at the time of enrolment, subject to penalties and sanctions for noncompliance.

Considering that basic education is imbued with public interest, all private basic education institutions shall adopt appropriate policies to accommodate and allow learners, who due to emergencies, force majeure, and good cause or other justifiable reasons, have unsettled financial obligations, to take the scheduled periodic examinations: *Provided*, That the parents or guardians of learners shall execute a promissory note for the schedule of settlement of the outstanding financial obligation prior to the taking of examination: *Provided*, *further*, That any

deferment of payment of unpaid balance shall not go beyond the school year, except when allowed by the private basic education institutions.

**SEC. 5.** School authorities shall have the right to withhold the issuance of appropriate clearance and transfer credentials of elementary and secondary learners with unpaid financial obligations and refuse their enrollment in the next enrollment period until all previous delinquencies are fully paid.

**SEC. 6.** Private basic education institutions found guilty of violating any provision of this Act shall be subject to administrative sanctions by the Department of Education (DepEd) pursuant to its powers under Batas Pambansa Blg. 232, otherwise known as the "Education Act of 1982" and Republic Act No. 9155, otherwise known as the "Governance of Basic Education Act of 2001".

Parents, guardians, or learners found guilty of committing any act of fraud, falsehood or misrepresentation in availing themselves of the benefits of this Act shall be subject to appropriate administrative and disciplinary sanctions of the private basic education institutions.

**SEC. 7.** Within ninety (90) days from the effectivity of this Act, the DepEd shall, in consultation with relevant stakeholders in basic education, promulgate the implementing rules and regulations to ensure the efficient and effective implementation of this Act.

**SEC. 8.** All laws, decrees, executive orders, ordinances, rules and regulations or other parts thereof contrary to or inconsistent with the provision of this Act are repealed, amended or modified accordingly.

**SEC. 9.** This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

Approved,