



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

H. No. 6860

BY REPRESENTATIVES PALMONES, CASTELO, LEDESMA, PIAMONTE, GONZALES (N.), LAGMAN, VERGARA, RODRIGUEZ (R.), SALIMBANGON, SAKALURAN, LOYOLA, CERAIFICA, GULLAS, TREÑAS, ROMUALDO, DEL MAR, TEODORO, HERRERA-DY, SARMIENTO (C.), ERIGUEL, SAMBAR, TINGA AND MACAPAGAL-ARROYO (G.), PER COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 2637

AN ACT BROADENING THE COVERAGE OF THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7687, OTHERWISE KNOWN AS "THE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY ACT OF 1994", AS AMENDED

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

1 SECTION 1. Section 4 of Republic Act No. 7687, as amended, is
2 hereby further amended to read as follows:

3 "SEC. 4. *Science and Technology Scholarship Fund* --

4 There is hereby created a Science and Technology Scholarship
5 Fund, hereinafter known as the Fund, to be administered by the
6 SCIENCE EDUCATION INSTITUTE (SEI) OF THE Department of
7 Science and Technology (DOST). **THE FUND SHALL BE USED**

1 SOLELY AND EXCLUSIVELY TO FINANCE THE EDUCATION OF
2 POOR BUT DESERVING STUDENTS: *PROVIDED*, THAT THE FUND
3 SHALL BE TREATED AS A SPECIAL FUND IN THE NATIONAL
4 TREASURY AND ITS BALANCE, INCLUDING THE AMOUNT
5 APPROPRIATED IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS
6 ACT WHICH SHALL FORM PART OF THE FUND, SHALL NOT
7 REVERT TO THE GENERAL FUND.”

8 SEC. 2. Section 5 of the same Act, as amended, is hereby further
9 amended to read as follows:

10 “SEC. 5. *Appropriations* – [The amount necessary to
11 carry out the initial implementation of this Act shall be charged
12 against the current Fiscal Year Appropriations of the Department
13 of Science and Technology.

14 “In order to provide funds necessary for the continuous
15 implementation of the program for every year following its initial
16 implementation, the budget of the DOST shall be increased in
17 the amount of Sixty million pesos (P60,000,000) per year until it
18 eventually reaches the amount of Three hundred million pesos
19 (P300,000,000) to sustain the recipients of the scholarship during
20 the duration of their study.

21 “For the first two (2) years of implementation of the
22 program, an additional Six million pesos (P6,000,000) per
23 month, to be increased to Seven million pesos (P7,000,000) per
24 month on the third and fourth year shall be provided, which sum
25 shall be generated from the net income of the Philippine
26 Amusement and Gaming Corporation (PAGCOR): *Provided*,
27 That such amount shall be strictly used to subsidize the
28 beneficiaries' expenses while studying under the scholarship

1 program herein provided. Priority shall be accorded to scholars
2 graduating from high schools located in the fifth (5th) and sixth
3 (6th) class municipalities.”]

4 “THE AMOUNT NECESSARY TO CARRY OUT THE
5 IMPLEMENTATION OF THIS ACT SHALL BE CHARGED AGAINST
6 THE CURRENT YEAR’S APPROPRIATIONS OF THE SEI UNDER
7 THE DOST. THEREAFTER, SUCH SUMS AS MAY BE NECESSARY
8 TO AUGMENT THE SPECIAL FUND HEREIN AUTHORIZED SHALL
9 BE INCLUDED IN THE ANNUAL GENERAL APPROPRIATIONS
10 ACT.

11 “IN ADDITION, SEI IS AUTHORIZED TO ACCEPT GRANTS,
12 CONTRIBUTIONS, AND DONATIONS FROM DOMESTIC AND
13 FOREIGN SOURCES FOR SCHOLARSHIP GRANTS.”

14 SEC. 3. Section 6 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as
15 follows:

16 “SEC. 6. *Coverage.* – The grant of any scholarship
17 award from the Fund shall be applied only in the field of science,
18 mathematics, engineering, and such other areas in the
19 undergraduate or postgraduate courses as may be provided for in
20 the rules and regulations to be promulgated by the DOST and the
21 [Department of Education, Culture and Sports (DECS)]
22 DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION (DEPED): *Provided, however,*
23 That COURSES TO BE TAKEN BY THE SCHOLARS SHALL BE
24 ALONG THE LINES OF PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED BY THE
25 GOVERNMENT, CONSISTENT WITH THE PREVAILING AND
26 EMERGING INDUSTRY AND SERVICE SECTOR REQUIREMENTS
27 AND PRIORITY INVESTMENTS, AS CONTAINED IN THE

1 **PHILIPPINE DEVELOPMENT PLAN: PROVIDED, FURTHER,**
 2 **THAT** the scholarship grant for the postgraduate level shall not
 3 be limited to those scholars or recipients who are graduates of
 4 the undergraduate scholarship program.

5 **"REFUSAL OR FAILURE TO COMPLY WITH THIS**
 6 **PROVISION SHALL BE GROUND FOR DISQUALIFICATION FROM**
 7 **THE PROGRAM."**

8 SEC. 4. Section 8 of the same Act is likewise amended to read as
 9 follows:

10 "SEC. 8. *Qualifications.* -- In order to qualify for the
 11 **TECHNICAL AND BACCALAUREATE** scholarship program, the
 12 applicant must be:

13 **"(A) A GRADUATE FROM A SCIENCE HIGH SCHOOL OR**
 14 **SPECIAL SCIENCE CLASS OR SCIENCE ORIENTED HIGH SCHOOL**
 15 **REGARDLESS OF GENDER, RELIGION AND CULTURAL**
 16 **AFFILIATION;**

17 **"[a](B) a member of the top five percent (5%) of [the]**
 18 **ANY high school graduating class, regardless of gender, religion,**
 19 **and cultural affiliation;**

20 **"(C) A GRADUATING HIGH SCHOOL STUDENT FROM ANY**
 21 **HIGH SCHOOL WHO MAY NOT BELONG TO THE TOP FIVE**
 22 **PERCENT (5%) OF THE GRADUATING CLASS BUT WITH**
 23 **EXEMPLARY GRADES IN SCIENCE AND MATHEMATICS;**

24 **"[b](D) a resident of the municipality for the last [four**
 25 **(4)] TWO (2) years prior to availing of the scholarship, as**
 26 **attested by school records; [and]**

27 **"[c](E) of good moral character and in good health[.];**

28 **AND**

1 “(F) A QUALIFIER IN THE DOST-SEI SCHOLARSHIP
2 EXAMINATION.”

3 SEC. 5. Section 11 of the same Act is likewise amended to read as
4 follows:

5 “SEC. 11. *Place of Study in the Country.* – The
6 recipient of the scholarship [privileges] GRANTS under this Act
7 shall be required to pursue [their degree program and/or the
8 vocational, technical, or other courses specified under this Act at
9 any academic or training institutions duly accredited by the
10 DECS and the DOST and in private schools accredited by
11 Federation of Accrediting Agencies in the Philippines (FAAP)]
12 TECHNICAL, UNDERGRADUATE, AND GRADUATE PROGRAMS
13 AND SPECIALIZED TRAININGS IN STATE COLLEGES OR
14 UNIVERSITIES WITH HIGH QUALITY TRAINING STANDARDS, OR
15 IN TERTIARY INSTITUTIONS IDENTIFIED BY THE COMMISSION
16 ON HIGHER EDUCATION (CHED) AS CENTERS OF
17 EXCELLENCE, DOST RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT
18 INSTITUTIONS AND SIMILAR INSTITUTIONS ABROAD AS
19 DETERMINED BY THE ADVISORY COMMITTEE CREATED UNDER
20 SECTION 15 OF REPUBLIC ACT NO. 7687.”

21 SEC. 6. Section 15 of the same Act is hereby amended to read as
22 follows:

23 “SEC. 15. *Advisory Committee.* – There is hereby
24 created a committee composed of the Secretary of Science and
25 Technology as *Chairman*, and the Secretaries or Heads of
26 the following departments or agencies or their chosen
27 representatives as members: [Education, Culture and Sports]

1 COMMISSION ON HIGHER EDUCATION; Budget and
2 Management; Agriculture; Trade and Industry; Interior and
3 Local Government; Finance and the National Economic and
4 Development Authority; and two (2) representatives from the
5 private sector, one (1) of whom shall come from the Philippine
6 Chamber of Commerce and Industry and one (1) from other
7 sectors.

8 “x x x.”

9 SEC. 7. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – Within ninety (90)
10 days from the approval of this Act, the Secretary of Science and Technology
11 shall issue the necessary rules and regulations for the effective implementation
12 of this Act.

13 SEC. 8. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, decrees, executive orders,
14 proclamations, rules and regulations, and issuances or parts thereof which are
15 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed or amended
16 accordingly.

17 SEC. 9. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after
18 its publication in the *Official Gazette* or in two (2) national newspapers of
19 general circulation.

 Approved,

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