

S E N A T E

S. No. 1824

INTRODUCED BY SENATORS FLAVIER, OSMEÑA III, DE CASTRO,
DRILON, LEGARDA LEVISTE, MAGSAYSAY JR., CAYETANO,
LACSON, PANGILINAN, JAWORSKI, BIAZON, OPLE,
HONASAN, PIMENTEL JR., VILLAR JR., ARROYO, BARBERS,
OSMEÑA (J) AND RECTO

AN ACT ESTABLISHING THE NATIONAL SERVICE
TRAINING PROGRAM FOR TERTIARY LEVEL
STUDENTS, AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC
ACT NO. 7077 AND PRESIDENTIAL DECREE 1706, AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES

*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
2 “National Service Training Program Act of 2001”, hereinafter referred
3 to as the “Act.”

4 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* - It is hereby mandated that all
5 citizens are duty bound to defend the security of the State and, in
6 the fulfillment thereof, the State may require each citizen to render
7 personal, military or civil service.

8 The State also recognizes the vital role of the youth in nation-
9 building and shall promote and protect their physical, moral, spiritual,
10 intellectual and social well-being. It shall inculcate in the youth



1 patriotism and nationalism, and advance their involvement in public
2 and civic affairs.

3 In the pursuit of these goals, the youth, the most valuable
4 resource of the nation, shall be motivated, trained, organized and
5 mobilized in national defense preparedness, literacy, environment,
6 health, livelihood and other similar endeavors in the service of the
7 nation.

8 SEC. 3. *Establishment of the National Service Training*
9 *Program.* - There is hereby established a National Service Training
10 Program, which shall form part of the curricula of all tertiary level
11 education and is a requisite for graduation consisting of the following
12 components:

13 a) The Reserve Officers' Training Corps (ROTC) shall refer
14 to the program, institutionalized under Sections 38 and 39 of R. A.
15 No. 7077, designed to provide military training to tertiary level
16 students to motivate, train, organize and mobilize them for national
17 defense preparedness, is hereby made optional and voluntary under
18 this Act;

19 b) The Literacy Training Corps shall refer to the program
20 designed to teach tertiary level students as trainors of literacy and
21 numeracy skills to school children and out-of-school youth;

22 c) The Environmental and Health Training Corps shall refer to
23 the program designed for the protection of the environment, such as
24 reforestation, upkeep of public parks, clean-up of streets, drainage,
25 esteros, rivers and lakes, as well as for the promotion of health



consciousness and health assistance including drug rehabilitation support services; and

d) The Livelihood Training Corps shall refer to the program designed to promote awareness of entrepreneurship and impart livelihood skills by conducting workshops and training seminars to the youth thereby preparing them to become trainors themselves, especially to out-of-school youth and unemployed women.

The Commission on Higher Education (CHED) and/or the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA) and other school authorities concerned may decide in the future to include such other training corps components as the country may need or require: *Provided, That* CHED- or TESDA-accredited non-government organizations may formulate and devise the following: a) training modules for any of the above training corps components subject to the accreditation of CHED and/or TESDA; and b) such other training corps components as may be accredited by CHED for higher education institutions/programs and TESDA for technical-vocational institutions/programs, for integration into the National Service Training Program.

SEC. 4. *Completion of the Program.* - The National Service Training Program Components set out in subparagraphs (a), (b), (c) and (d) of the preceding section may be undertaken individually and when completed shall satisfy the requirements for graduation.

SEC. 5. *Duration and Equivalent Course Unit.* - Each of the National Service Training Programs shall be undertaken for an



1 academic period of four (4) semesters and shall have a course unit
2 of not more than one (1) unit for each semester.

3 In lieu of the four-semester program for any of the components
4 of the National Service Training Program, a one-summer program
5 may be designed, formulated and adopted by the Department of
6 National Defense (DND), Commission on Higher Education (CHED)
7 and Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA).

8 In either case, clustering of affected students from different
9 educational institutions may be done, taking into account logistics,
10 branch of service and geographical considerations. Schools that do not
11 meet the required number of students to maintain the optional ROTC
12 program shall allow their students to cross-enroll to other schools
13 irrespective of whether or not the said schools are being administered
14 by the same or another branch of service of the Armed Forces of
15 the Philippines to which the schools are identified.

16 SEC. 6. *Payment of Fees.* - Colleges and universities and similar
17 institutions of learning shall not collect any fee for any of the service
18 training programs except basic tuition fees.

19 In the case of ROTC, the DND shall formulate and adopt a
20 program of assistance and/or incentive to those students who will opt
21 to take said program.

22 The school authorities concerned, CHED and TESDA shall
23 ensure that group insurance for health and accident shall be taken for
24 students enrolled in any of the components of the National Service
25 Training Program.



1 SEC. 7. *Management of the National Service Training Program*
2 *Components.* - The school authorities shall exercise academic and
3 administrative supervision over the implementation of the different
4 national service training corps components: *Provided, That* in an
5 accredited non-government organization training module for any of
6 the training corps components, such academic and administrative
7 supervision shall be exercised jointly with that accredited non-
8 government organization.

9 SEC. 8. *Creation of the National Service Reserve Force.* -
10 There is hereby created a National Service Reserve Force, to be
11 comprised of the graduates of the non-ROTC programs, which may
12 be tapped by the state for literacy, environmental, health, and
13 livelihood training activities.

14 Graduates of the ROTC program shall form part of the Citizen
15 Armed Force pursuant to Republic Act No. 7077.

16 SEC. 9. *Scholarships.* - Scholarships that may be made available
17 from appropriations for this purpose in the General Appropriations
18 Act shall be allocated when so provided by the CHED nationwide
19 in proportion to the student population of each province.

20 SEC. 10. *Implementing Rules and Regulations.* - The
21 Department of National Defense (DND), the Commission on Higher
22 Education (CHED) and Technical Education and Skills Development
23 Authority (TESDA), shall have the joint responsibility for the adoption
24 of the implementing rules and regulations of this Act which shall be
25 promulgated within sixty (60) days from the approval of this Act.



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1 These three (3) agencies shall consult the Department of
2 Education (DEPED), Department of the Interior and Local
3 Government (DILG), Department of Social Welfare and Development
4 (DSWD), Department of Trade and Industry (DTI), Philippine
5 Association of State Universities and Colleges (PASUC), Coordinating
6 Council of Private Educational Associations of the Philippines
7 (COCOPEA), and the University of the Philippines and other
8 appropriate government agencies and recognized student organizations
9 in drafting the Implementing Rules and Regulations.

10 The Implementing Rules and Regulations shall include the
11 guidelines for the adoption of the appropriate curriculum for each of
12 the National Service Training Program as well as for accreditation
13 of the same.

14 SEC. 11. *Transitory Provision.* - Students who have yet to
15 complete basic ROTC may opt to take instead any of the three (3)
16 components of the National Service Training Programs upon the
17 implementation of the Act.

18 SEC. 12. *Suspension of ROTC Requirement.* - The completion
19 of ROTC training as a requisite to graduation is hereby set aside for
20 those students who despite completing all their academic units have
21 not been allowed to graduate. Availment of this provision shall lapse
22 on June 30, 2004.

23 SEC. 13. *Separability Clause.* - If any section or provision of
24 this Act shall be declared unconstitutional or invalid, the other sections
25 or provisions not affected thereby shall remain in full force and effect.



1 SEC. 14. *Repealing Clause.* - Section 35 of Commonwealth
2 Act No.1, Executive Order. No. 207, Sections 38-39 of Republic Act.
3 7077, and Sections 2-3 of Presidential Decree 1706, as well as all
4 laws, decrees, orders, rules and regulations and other issuances
5 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are deemed modified,
6 revoked or repealed accordingly.

7 SEC. 15. *Effectivity.* - This Act shall take effect fifteen (15)
8 days after its publication in two (2) newspapers of national circulation,
9 but the implementation of this Act shall commence in the school year
10 of 2002-2003.

Approved,

A stylized, handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be a cursive 'R' or similar monogram.

LEGISLATIVE
BILLS AND INDEX SERVICE
SENATE
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