


NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE )  
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES )  
*First Regular Session* )



'22 JUL 11 P6:30

**SENATE**

**S. No. 279**

RECEIVED BY: 

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**Introduced by SENATOR JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA**

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**AN ACT  
EXPANDING THE COVERAGE OF THE TERTIARY EDUCATION SUBSIDY,  
AMENDING FOR THE PURPOSE REPUBLIC ACT NO. 10931, OTHERWISE  
KNOWN AS THE "UNIVERSAL ACCESS TO QUALITY TERTIARY EDUCATION  
ACT"**

**EXPLANATORY NOTE**

Quality, accessible, and inclusive education has always been among the priorities of the government pursuant to the Constitutional mandate 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."

In 2017, Republic Act No. 10931, otherwise known as the "Universal Access to Quality Education Act," was enacted to make education, particularly higher and technical-vocational education, accessible to all through adequate funding and partnership with private educational institutions. By virtue of the said law, Tertiary Education Subsidy (TES) was established in all state universities and colleges (SUCs), local universities and colleges (LUCs), private higher education institutions (HEIs) and all technical-vocational institutions (TVIs).

In light of making education more inclusive, this proposed measure seeks to amend R.A. 10931 by also giving proportional budgetary allocation to poor and academically competent students who opt to study in private institutions even if there

are existing public institutions in their areas. Further, TES beneficiaries with good scholastic records and who comply with residency requirements of HEIs and TVIs will continue to receive the benefits under the law until they complete post-secondary technical-vocational course or higher education degree program.

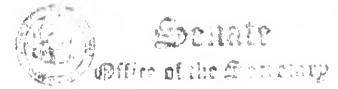
This measure was approved on by the House of Representatives on Third Reading during the 18<sup>th</sup> Congress.

In view of the foregoing, the immediate passage of this bill is highly recommended.



**JINGGOY EJERCITO ESTRADA**

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

1 Section 1. Section 7 of Republic Act No. 10931 or the "Universal Access to  
2 Quality Tertiary Education Act" is hereby amended to read as follows:

3 "Sec. 7. **TERTIARY EDUCATION SUBSIDY (TES)** for  
4 *Filipino Students.* – To support the cost of tertiary education  
5 or any part or portion thereof, a TES is hereby established **IN**  
6 **ALL SUCs, LUCs, PRIVATE HEIs AND TVIs** for all Filipino  
7 students who [shall] enroll in the **FIRST** undergraduate, post-  
8 secondary **TERTIARY EDUCATION** program[s] [~~of SUCs,~~  
9 ~~LUCs, private HEIs and all TVIs~~] of their choice. The TES shall  
10 be administered by the UniFAST Board and the amount  
11 necessary to fund the TES shall be included in the  
12 **RESPECTIVE** budgets of the CHED and the TESDA: *Provided,*  
13 That prioritization shall be given to students in the following  
14 order: (a) students who are part of households included in the  
15 **UPDATED** Listahanan 2.0, ranked according to the estimated  
16 per capita household income; and (b) students not part of the

1 Listahanan 2.0, ranked according to estimated per capita  
2 household income based on submitted documentation of  
3 proof of income to be determined by the UniFAST Board:  
4 *Provided further*, That such prioritization shall not apply to  
5 Filipino students in cities and municipalities with no existing  
6 SUC or LUC campus **AND PUBLIC TVI.**

7 **"THERE SHALL BE A PROPORTIONAL**  
8 **BUDGETARY ALLOCATION IN THE FORM OF A**  
9 **VOUCHER SYSTEM FOR POOR AND ACADEMICALLY**  
10 **COMPETENT STUDENTS WHO OPT TO STUDY IN**  
11 **PRIVATE HEIs AND PRIVATE TVIs IN CITIES AND**  
12 **MUNICIPALITIES WHERE THERE ARE EXISTING SUCs,**  
13 **LUCs AND PUBLIC TVIs. STUDENTS FROM**  
14 **LISTAHANAN HOUSEHOLDS SHALL BE PRIORITIZED**  
15 **AS BENEFICIARIES OF THE TES IN AREAS WHERE**  
16 **THERE ARE NO EXISTING SUCs, LUCs AND PUBLIC**  
17 **TVIs.**

18 **"ALL VOUCHERS ISSUED UNDER THIS ACT**  
19 **SHALL BE USED EXCLUSIVELY FOR THE PURPOSE OF**  
20 **ASSISTING POOR AND ACADEMICALLY COMPETENT**  
21 **STUDENTS WHO OPT TO STUDY IN PRIVATE HEIs AND**  
22 **PRIVATE TVIs IN CITIES AND MUNICIPALITIES**  
23 **WHERE THERE ARE EXISTING SUCs, LUCs AND**  
24 **PUBLIC TVIs.**

25 **"TO SUPPORT THE COST OF TERTIARY**  
26 **EDUCATION OR ANY PART OR PORTION THEREOF,**  
27 ~~[F]the TES may among others, [and to support the cost of~~  
28 ~~tertiary education or any part or portion thereof,]~~ cover the  
29 following:

- 30 a) Tuition and other school fees in private HEIs, and private or  
31 LGU-operated TVIs which shall be equivalent to the tuition



1 and other school fees of the nearest SUC or state-run TVI in  
2 their respective areas;

- 3 b) [An] Allowance for books, **SCHOOL** supplies, transportation  
4 **TO AND FROM SCHOOL**, and [~~miscellaneous personal~~  
5 ~~expenses, including a~~] reasonable allowance for the  
6 documented rental or purchase of a [~~personal computer or~~  
7 ~~laptop~~] **DESKTOP OR PORTABLE COMPUTER WHEN**  
8 **APPLICABLE** [~~and other education-related expenses~~];  
9 c) An allowance for room and board costs incurred by the  
10 student **WHEN APPLICABLE**;  
11 d) x x x  
12 e) x x x

13 **ALL TES BENEFICIARIES SHALL CONTINUE TO**  
14 **RECEIVE SUCH BENEFITS OR SUBSIDY UNTIL THEY**  
15 **COMPLETE THEIR POST-SECONDARY TECHNICAL-**  
16 **VOCATIONAL COURSE OR HIGHER EDUCATION**  
17 **DEGREE PROGRAM: PROVIDED, THAT THEY DO NOT**  
18 **FAIL IN ANY SUBJECT ENROLLED IN AND COMPLY**  
19 **WITH RESIDENCY REQUIREMENTS IN ACCORDANCE**  
20 **WITH THE RULES OF THE HEIs AND TVIs.**

21 *Sec. 2. Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part hereof is held invalid or  
22 unconstitutional, the remainder of the law or the provision or part not otherwise  
23 affected shall remain valid and subsisting.

24 *Sec. 3. Repealing Clause.* – Any law, presidential decree or issuance, executive  
25 order, letter of instruction, administrative order, rule, or regulation contrary to or  
26 inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed, modified, or amended  
27 accordingly.

28 *Sec. 4. Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its  
29 publication in the *Official Gazette* or in a newspaper of general circulation.

*Approved,*