

NINETEENTH CONGRESS OF THE)
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
Second Regular Session)

23 AUG 22 P 3:59

SENATE
S.B. No. 2420

RECEIVED BY: _____



Introduced by: Senator Raffy T. Tulfo

**AN ACT MANDATING ALL PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY
SCHOOLS TO IMPLEMENT A NO COLLECTION POLICY**

Explanatory Note

The purpose of this bill aims to address the crucial issue of financial burden on parents and guardians in providing education to their children. It seeks to ensure equitable access to education by instituting a policy that prohibits the collection of any fees or contributions from students attending public elementary and secondary schools.

This proposed legislation is grounded in the recognition of the constitutional mandate for the provision of free public education at the elementary and secondary levels. Moreover, it aligns with the country's commitment to achieving the Education For All (EFA) Plan 2015 and the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), particularly concerning primary school participation.

By implementing a no collection policy in public schools, this bill seeks to eliminate the barriers that hinder the enrollment and retention of students. Families with limited financial means will no longer face out-of-pocket costs associated with sending their children to school, thus promoting inclusivity and equal opportunities in education.

In view of the foregoing, immediate approval of this measure is earnestly sought.



Raffy T. Tulfo
Senator

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*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 “No Collection Policy in
2 all Public Elementary and Secondary Schools”.

3 Sec 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is the policy of the state to provide free public
4 education at the elementary and secondary levels in line with the Millennium
5 Development Goals (MDGs) with respect to primary school participation.

6 Sec 3. *No Collection Policy in All Public Elementary and Secondary Schools.* –
7 No fees shall be collected from school children enrolling in pre-school up to Grade IV,
8 during the enrollment period and at any time during the school year.

9 Sec 4. *Coverage.* – This prohibition shall cover, among others, the authorized
10 but voluntary contributions such as BSP, GSP, Red Cross, Anti-TB Fund and PTCA.

11 Sec 5. *Voluntary Contribution.*- For grade and year levels beyond Grade 4, no
12 collection of any type should be undertaken during the enrolment period and the
13 first month of classes. Starting on the second month, contributions for the following
14 may be collected, but only on a voluntary basis:

- 15 1. Boy/Girl Scouts membership
- 16 2. Red Cross Membership
- 17 3. Anti-TB Fund Drive
- 18 4. Parents Teachers Conference Association

1 5. School Publication

2 6. Membership in student organizations

3 *Sec 6. Parents Teachers Conference Association Contribution.* – PTCA's may
4 start their collection only after presenting to their members and to the school
5 administration a report on the utilization of the previous schoolyear's collections. The
6 amount of contributions to the PTCA shall be agreed upon in a general assembly of
7 the PTCA.

8 *Sec 7. Payment of school publication fee.* – The school publication fee shall be
9 set at the school level but shall not be more than P60.00 per elementary school pupil
10 and P90.00 per secondary school student. The publication of a school newspaper,
11 while not mandatory, is strongly encouraged, particularly at the secondary level in line
12 with the campus journalism program.

13 *Sec. 8. Payment of membership fees for student organizations.* – It shall be
14 set by the organization subject to existing school policies on student organizations.

15 *Sec. 9. Automatic Enrolment of Promoted Pupils/students.* – Those who are
16 promoted to the next grade or year level are considered automatically enrolled for
17 the coming school year in the same school. Only pupils entering first grade, students
18 entering first year high school, and transferees from another public school or a
19 private school need to enroll during the enrollment period. Returning pupils/students
20 shall report to school only for sectioning purposes or any other pre-opening
21 preparations as determined by the school administrators.

22 *Sec. 10. Release of Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses (MOOE).* –
23 Schools Division Superintendents are directed to release MOOE funds to schools
24 without fiscal autonomy in the form of cash advance to ensure that operating funds
25 are available at the start of the school year.

26 *Sec 11. Monitoring and Supervision.* – Regional and division offices are advised
27 to undertake monitoring activities during the enrollment period and the first month of
28 classes to ensure that the provisions of this Order are strictly complied with.

29 *SEC. 12. Implementing Rules and Regulations.* – The Department of Education
30 shall promulgate the rules and regulations to implement this Act within thirty (30) days
31 from its effectivity.

1 SEC.13. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, orders issuance, circulars, rules and
2 regulation or parts thereof, which are inconsistent with the provisions of this Act are
3 hereby repealed or modified accordingly.

4 SEC. 14. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision of this Act is declared
5 unconstitutional or invalid, other parts or provision hereof not affected thereby shall
6 continue to be in full force and effect.

7 SEC. 15. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect fifteen (15) days after its
8 publication in the official gazette or in at least one (1) newspaper of general
9 circulation.

Approved,