



S E N A T E

S. No. 1359

PREPARED AND SUBMITTED JOINTLY BY THE COMMITTEES
ON HIGHER, TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION;
AND BASIC EDUCATION WITH SENATORS REVILLA JR.,
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GATCHALIAN, LAPID, VILLANUEVA, ESTRADA, GO
AND LEGARDA AS AUTHORS THEREOF

AN ACT PROHIBITING THE IMPOSITION OF A “NO
PERMIT, NO EXAM” POLICY, OR ANY POLICY
THAT PREVENTS STUDENTS ENROLLED IN
PUBLIC OR PRIVATE EDUCATIONAL
INSTITUTIONS FROM TAKING EXAMINATIONS
OR ANY FORM OF EDUCATIONAL ASSESSMENT
FOR REASONS OF OUTSTANDING FINANCIAL
OR PROPERTY OBLIGATIONS, SUCH AS UNPAID
TUITION AND OTHER SCHOOL FEES

*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
2 the “‘No Permit, No Exam’ Prohibition Act”.

3 SEC. 2. *Declaration of Policy.* – It is hereby declared
4 the policy of the State to promote the right of all citizens to
5 quality education and to ensure access to educational

1 services regardless of personal or socioeconomic
2 circumstances. Towards this end, it is hereby declared
3 unlawful for any educational institution, public or private,
4 to prevent any student from taking examinations or any
5 form of educational assessment for reasons of financial or
6 property obligations, including unpaid tuition and other
7 school fees.

8 SEC. 3. *Coverage.* – This Act shall cover all public and
9 private educational institutions, including elementary and
10 secondary schools, post-secondary technical-vocational
11 institutes, and higher educational institutions; and all
12 individuals enrolled under the K to 12 Basic Educational
13 Program, in certificate, diploma or degree programs of
14 higher educational institutions, or in short-term courses
15 offered by technical-vocational training institutes.

16 SEC. 4. *Prohibition Against ‘No Permit, No Exam’*
17 *Policy.* – No public or private educational institutions shall
18 impose any policy to prevent students with outstanding
19 financial or property obligations, such as unpaid tuition
20 and other school fees, from taking examinations or any

1 form of educational assessment with the rest of the student
2 body: *Provided*, That the students and/or their parents or
3 legal guardians may execute a promissory note addressed
4 to the educational institution concerned or its duly
5 authorized representative, indicating the amount of
6 outstanding financial or property obligations and the date
7 when such obligation would be settled.

8 SEC. 5. *Authorized Interventions*. – Educational
9 institutions may enforce any of the following interventions
10 against students with outstanding financial or property
11 obligations until such time that the obligations have been
12 settled:

13 (a) Withhold the release or issuance of grades,
14 diplomas or certificates, whichever is applicable: *Provided*,
15 That the grades, diploma, or certificates of students with
16 outstanding financial or property obligations shall be
17 processed and recorded together with the grades, diplomas
18 and certificates of the rest of the student body;

1 (b) Deny admission or enrolment in the succeeding
2 school year, short-term course, or semester, whichever is
3 applicable;

4 (c) Refuse the issuance of applicable clearances; or

5 (d) Pursue the settlement of outstanding financial or
6 property obligations through appropriate court action:
7 *Provided*, That this subsection shall not be construed to
8 prohibit either party from engaging in alternative modes of
9 resolution to settle the outstanding financial or property
10 obligations.

11 SEC. 6. *Prohibited Acts.* – The following acts
12 committed by any educational institution shall be
13 prohibited:

14 (a) Disallowing any student with outstanding
15 financial or property obligations from taking examinations
16 or any form of educational assessment with the rest of the
17 student body;

18 (b) Requiring any student to secure a permit to take
19 an examination or any form of education assessment from

1 the school authorities prior to the administration of such
2 examination or assessment;

3 (c) Compelling any student or his or her parents or
4 legal guardians to pay a portion of the outstanding
5 financial or property obligations prior to the
6 administration of any examination or assessment; or

7 (d) Imposing fines, penalties or interests on
8 outstanding financial or property obligations.

9 SEC. 7. *Penalties.* – The President of the educational
10 institutions found guilty of committing any of the
11 prohibited acts enumerated in Section 6 of this Act shall be
12 punished by a fine of not less than Twenty thousand pesos
13 (P20,000.00) but not more than Fifty thousand pesos
14 (P50,000.00) for each case.

15 SEC. 8. *Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR).* –
16 Within thirty (30) days from the effectivity of this Act, the
17 Commission on Higher Education (CHED), the
18 Department of Education (DepEd), and the Technical
19 Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA)

1 shall jointly promulgate the rules and regulations to
2 effectively implement the provisions of this Act.

3 SEC. 9. *Separability Clause.* – If any provision or part
4 hereof is declared unconstitutional, the remainder of this
5 Act or any provision not affected thereby shall remain in
6 full force and effect.

7 SEC. 10. *Repealing Clause.* – All laws, acts, decrees,
8 executive orders, issuances, and rules and regulations or
9 parts thereof which are contrary to and inconsistent with
10 this Act are hereby repealed, amended or modified
11 accordingly.

12 SEC. 11. *Effectivity.* – This Act shall take effect
13 immediately following its publication in the *Official*
14 *Gazette* or in at least two (2) newspapers of general
15 circulation.

Approved,